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# THE SUNDAY TIMES



# From Westminster to Windsor:

TODAY

The last full day of lying in state.

Members of the public will be allowed to file past the coffin until 6.30am tomorrow

MONDAY 10.44am

The coffin will be taken by the State Gun Carriage from the Palace of Westminster to Westminster Abbey for the funeral service, which will be attended by more than 2,000 guests. It is the first state funeral since that of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965

A Hyde Park Corner

The state funeral will begin. It will be conducted by the Dean of Westminster, the Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle, right, and the sermon will be given by Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury. The service is expected to last one hour

11.55am

The Last Post will sound towards the end of the service, followed by two minutes' silence, which will be observed throughout the country. Reveille, the National Anthem, and a Lament played by the Queen's Piper will bring the service to an end, at approximately midday

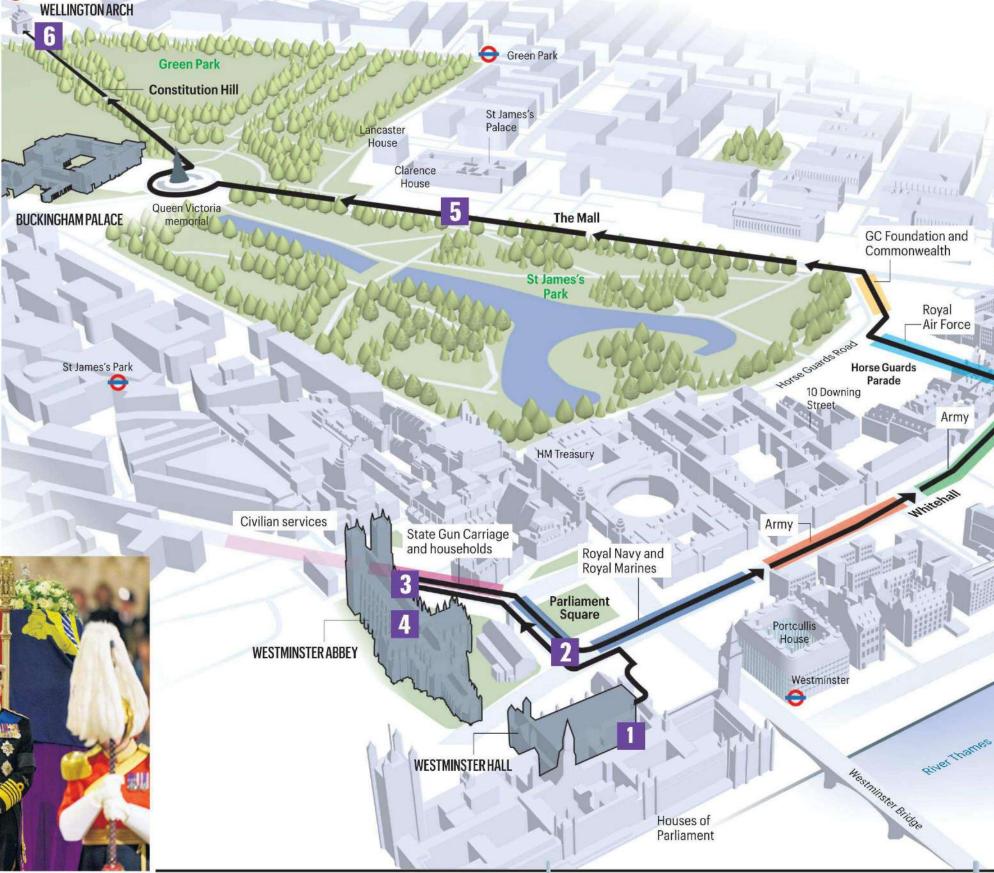
12.15pm
The coffin will be returned to the State Gun Carriage and move in procession to Wellington Arch. World leaders will then be hosted by the Foreign Secretary at a reception at Church House



Chelsea Pensioners join members of the public as they file past the coffin of Queen Elizabeth II last week

King Charles III stands vigil beside the coffin





#### WESTMINSTER ABBEY TO WELLINGTON ARCH

The route to Wellington Arch will be lined by members of the Armed Forces. The procession will be led by the Mounties of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, below, followed by representatives of groups including the George Cross foundations from Malta, the Royal Ulster Constabulary, forces from the Commonwealth and the National Health Service. The King, the Princess Royal, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Sussex, and other members of the royal family will again walk behind the coffin. The Queen Consort, the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of Sussex, and the Countess of Wessex will follow by car. Big Ben will toll throughout the duration of the procession, and minute guns will be fired in Hyde Park by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery

Senior members of the royal family

There will be three processions tomorrow

• Westminster Hall to Westminster Abbey

• Westminster Abbey to Wellington Arch

• Wellington Arch

to Windsor Castle

THE STATE GUN CARRIAGE

The 123-year-old carriage was removed from active service in 1901 for the funeral of Queen Victoria. It has also been used for the funerals of

removed from active service in 1901 for the funeral of Queen Victoria. It has also been used for the funerals of King George VI, Sir Winston Churchill, and Lord Louis Mountbatten. It weighs 2.5 tonnes and features a 13lb silver-barrelled field gun. In a tradition dating back to the time of Queen Victoria, it will be drawn by Royal Navy ratings, rather than horses. It has been in storage for decades in carefully-controlled conditions of temperature and humidity, has been polished at least once a week, and its wheels turned by

a quarter every seven days to stop

them from becoming egg-shaped

Royal Naval ratings will haul the carriage by ropes, with a further 40 marching behind acting as brakes

The coffin will be draped

in the Royal Standard

and the Imperial State

Crown will sit on top

Illustrative purposes and not all military personnel included

Graphic: The Sunday Times

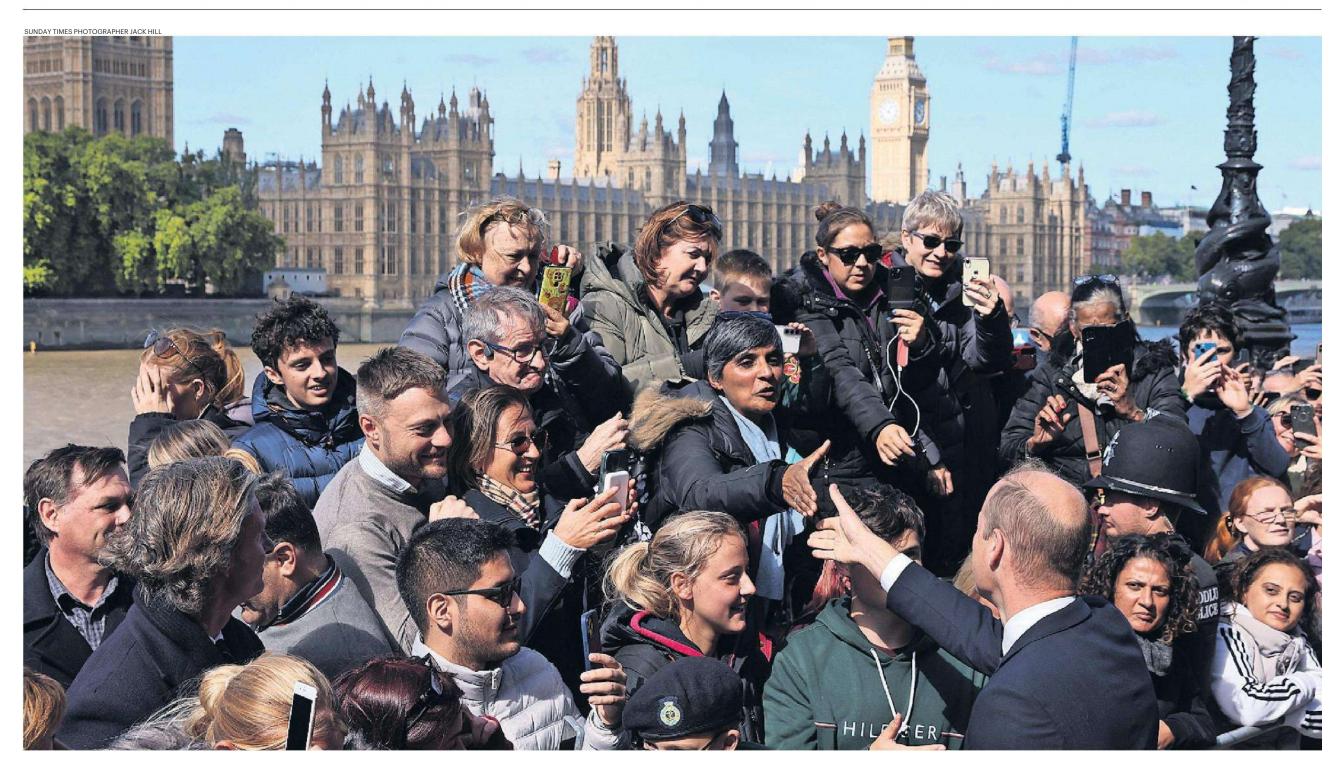
Yeomen of the Guard

Gentlemen at Arms

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# THE SUNDAY TIMES



# The people's pilgrimage



And still they come. From morning till night, tens of thousands of people of all ages, backgrounds and places across the land defy warnings of 24-hour waits and swarm to pay their last respects to their monarch – and be part of the greatest queue on earth. Not a queue but The Queue. A queue with its own

Twitter feed, Instagram account with their own individual stories. and YouTube channel. A queue with pastors, video screens and psychologists analysing it. A queue that even celebrities are joining. A five-mile queue that at times came to such a standstill that there was a

queue for the queue. A quintessentially British queue that was polite, convivial and stoic, in which everyone had joined wanting to be part of something historic. A people's pilgrimage, to which some brought sausage rolls and egg sandwiches and a flask of tea, others whisky or gin and truffle crisps – but to which all came

A pink dawn was just breaking over Westminster yesterday when old schoolfriends Jane O'Kane and Catrin Howell, both 52, were finally allowed up the steps to Lambeth Bridge and across the river towards the Houses of Parliament after 12 hours of queueing. "It's in sight now," said O'Kane, who had joined the queue the previous evening after a five-hour drive from Mumbles in south Wales. She still looked immaculately made-up. "It felt like the right thing to do," she said, when asked why she didn't just

watch in comfort at home. "The

jaunty beret. "My father said he won't speak to me again if I did this. But it's massive." The two friends, who last came to London together to see David Bowie when they were 16, had another reason.

In March O'Kane was diagnosed with stage four lung cancer. "It was a huge shock," she said. "It's really focused me. Whereas before might have just thought about coming but watched on TV, now I am determined to do things.'

Queen has been there all our lives." When they heard on their drive to turn sombre and they would Prince William meeting those "I'm not even a royalist, I'm a London that the queue had got so silently file past the coffin. "I curtrepublican," laughed Howell, a long it had been paused, O'Kane seyed," O'Kane said afterwards. "It ceramic artist, who was wearing a was not deterred. "I thought, I'm was so emotional." not stopping now.

Howell admits there were moments in the queue "around 4am when it was really dark and cold and I fell asleep" that she thought about her warm bed.

But the end was in sight as they entered the airport-like zigzag queue leading to parliament and the security tent. It would still be another three hours before they finally entered Westminster Hall, where the mood would suddenly

People had come for all manner of reasons. Some from a sense of duty. Also waiting was Nigel O'Leary, 47, who had come from Lincoln with his wife Angela. He had medals on his coat. "Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq and two tours of Afghanistan," he said. "I wanted to pay my respects to the Queen. She's been my boss for 30-odd

Near them was a British Airways stewardess still in uniform, and a queueing outside parliament

group of nurses from Watford, "My back is aching, my feet are aching complained Naz ud-din, 45, wrapped in a red blanket, "but I wouldn't be anywhere else." Stewards tried to cheer them on. "The sun is shining, you're nearly there," one said.

Some came with children. Pete and Abby Burnell travelled from Bournemouth with their son Jenson, ten, and daughter Harriet, six. "It's the longest night they've ever Continued on page 2→

# Harry's new anguish after 'ER' stripped from his vigil uniform

Roya Nikkhah Royal Editor

The grief was etched across the faces of the Queen's grandchildren, standing vigil in the stone stillness of Westminster Hall.

Together again in mourning, the Prince of Wales stood guard at the head of the coffin and the Duke of Sussex paid homage at the foot, flanked by their six cousins for the 15-minute watch

Yet beneath the scene of unity, with Harry brought back into the fold and allowed to wear military dress despite being stripped of his honorary titles last year, there was

He was "devastated" when he received his uniform from Buckingham Palace yesterday after-

noon with his grandmother's "ER" initials stripped from the shoulder.

During the vigil by the Queen's children on Friday night the Duke of York, who is no longer a working royal, retained the initials on his vice-admiral's uniform.

Shortly before leaving for Westminster, Harry was considering wearing a morning suit to avoid the "humiliation". A friend said: "He is heartbroken. To remove his grandmother's initials feels very

William, 40, and Harry, 38, wore the Blues and Royals No 1 dress uniform "at the King's request", the regiment into which both were commissioned. Both wore their Golden, Diamond and Platinum Jubilee medals, Harry with his Afghanistan service medal – a proud reminder of two operational tours. It was the first time he had worn uniform since his final public engagement as captain general of the Royal Marines at the Mountbatten Festival of Music in March 2020 at the Albert Hall.

Heads bowed and eyes sometimes closed in sombre reflection, the brothers surrounded the catafalque with Princess Beatrice, 34, Princess Eugenie, 32, Zara Tindall, 41, Peter Phillips, 44, Lady Louise Windsor, 18, and Viscount Severn, 14.

Watching from a platform were the Earl and Countess of Wessex who were "present to watch the vigil to support their children who Continued on page 2→

# **NEWMAN'S**



# Kwarteng to rip up rules in gamble to get Britain booming

Harry Yorke, Caroline Wheeler and Tim Shipman

Environmental and planning regulations will be torn up in parts of the UK to create special investment zones, the chancellor is to announce in his first mini-budget this week.

Kwasi Kwarteng is expected to announce up to 12 of the low-tax, deregulated areas as part of the government's growth strategy.

Businesses inside the zones, described as free ports on rocket will benefit from boosters, enhanced tax relief and reduced planning restrictions to streamline construction and the development of new homes. Ministers have also discussed whether environmental

protections that have historically made it difficult to build on certain types of land should be watered down inside the areas.

While agreements with individual regions are not finalised, sources say the government is looking at the West Midlands, Thames Estuary, Tees Valley, West Yorkshire and Norfolk. Each deal will be bespoke so tax perks and regulations may differ.

The announcement will form part of a mini-budget designed to spur economic growth and implement Liz Truss's pledges to reverse the national insurance hike, cancel the scheduled increase in corporation tax and scrap green levies on energy bills. The cuts will cost between £30 billion and £50 billion, with suggestions they could be introduced before Christmas, rather than the new financial year in April.

Kwarteng will also scrap the bankers' bonus cap to make the City more attractive post Brexit and is reviewing the government's fiscal rules.

Speculation is also mounting that Truss could seek to bring forward Rishi Sunak's plans to cut 1p off income tax from 2024, with Goldman Sachs this week also anticipating a 2p cut from the basic rate. However, it is understood that Truss and Kwarteng could defer that decision until they hold a formal budget, which will be accompanied by a forecast by the Continued on page 2→

# FBI agents quiz Truss's top man about plot to rig election in Puerto Rico

#### **Gabriel Pogrund** Whitehall Editor

Liz Truss's top adviser has been interviewed by FBI agents about an alleged conspiracy to bribe a US politician and influence the outcome of an election.

Mark Fullbrook, the Downing Street chief of staff, told colleagues last week that it was time for the government to draw a line under years of scandal around ethics and transparency.

However, the former lobbyist, 60, was made the subject of a Department of Justice and FBI

investigation this year. He spoke to FBI officers after a request made via the National Crime Agency and Metropolitan Police.

Their inquiries centred on an alleged plot by Julio Herrera Velutini, a banker and Tory donor, to bribe the governor of Puerto Rico, the US-administered territory.

Velutini is said to have promised Wanda Vázquez Garced support worth \$300,000 for her re-election campaign in 2020 on condition that she sacked the head of the island's financial regulator. The regulator had taken a close interest in activity at his bank. According to

prosecutors, Vazquez Garced, a Trump-supporting Republican, agreed. Velutini was a foreign national, making him ineligible as a donor, and allegedly did not want anyone to know about the deal.

He instead paid CT, a lobbying company where Fullbrook was chief global projects officer, which in turn provided support for Vázquez Garced's campaign. The company was also entrusted with appointing Vázquez Garced's campaign manager, so she would have a seasoned professional and not what Velutini privately called a "monkey from Puerto Rico". Full-

brook led on the project, flew to Puerto Rico for a meeting with Vázguez Garced and allegedly told her

how he could help her. Velutini paid for political consultancy through third-party bank accounts, which prosecutors say was designed to conceal his corrupt motives. Prosecutors have said those responsible "struck a blow to the heart of our democracy" and "eroded the confidence of our citizens in their institutions of governance". Velutini and Vázquez Garced deny wrongdoing.

Fullbrook is understood to have signed a proffer agreement with the FBI, meaning he can give evidence which will not be used against him in any criminal proceedings. He is now a witness, not a subject, in the case.

He worked for Margaret Thatcher and John Major at party headquarters and ran Boris Johnson's 2019 leadership campaign.

Whitehall insiders have questioned whether he will pass security vetting. They also pointed to the potential diplomatic consequences. The Biden administration has poured billions into safeguarding democracy from foreign influence. Truss is also likely to

face questions about what she knew and when.

A spokesman for Fullbrook said he always complied with the laws and regulations of the jurisdictions he worked in and had "completely and voluntarily" engaged with the US authorities in this case.

He added: "The work was engaged only by [Velutini] and only to conduct opinion research for him and no one else. Mr Fullbrook never did any work for, nor presented any research findings to, the governor or her campaign."

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Full story, page 17

# Grandchildren stand vigil to say







# **Tens of** thousands on people's pilgrimage

→ Continued from page 1 had," Burnell said, as his daughter yawned on her mother's shoulder. "They've been real troupers. We picked them up from school yesterday to drive to Woking station and joined the queue around 8pm." The wait was helped by ice cream at 1.30am and chips at 5am.

The children had learnt about Guy Fawkes at school so their parents had tried to turn it into a history lesson but as the night turned to dawn, the youngest was confused. "I'm going to see the Queen in a cage," said

"They've never had a night

like this," said their mother

Harriet, whose middle name is Elizabeth. Nearby a lively group turned out to be newly made queue buddies. "We've done exercises in the queue, we've sung 500 Miles," said Sam Record, 30, a purple-haired healthcare assistant who had travelled from Derby with her boyfriend Leon Bates and fallen in with Gill Sykes, a nursery nurse from

"I came for Princess Diana's funeral in 1997," Sykes said, "so wanted to be here for this. But the atmosphere was different. I know it will be sad when we get in there but

Gloucester, and several

this is much more enjoyable." Record said: "It was seeing that image of the Queen alone at Prince Philip's funeral that made me want to come. That showed how she stood by us, particularly when we learnt the prime minister was having parties and ignoring

the rules." Bates added: "We want to say goodbye and thank you."

If nothing else, they were well over their daily steps target, said one of their new friends, checking her phone. "We've done 24,000

As they were entering Westminster Hall, on the other side of London people were just starting their journey, streaming out of Bermondsey Tube station and following the black "lying in state" queue signs.

Some had already travelled far. Martin Cleary, 32, had left his home in Galway at 1.15am to catch a flight from Dublin. "I wasn't a massive fan of the royal family but you have to respect someone who did so much," he said. "I probably wouldn't have come if it hadn't been for that historic visit [to Ireland] she made in

Also among them were Trish Huxtable, 35, who spray-paints cars for a living and Kelly Sharp, 37, a pharmacy dispenser, both of whom were pulling trolleys. 'We're the trolley dollies, they said as they took selfies by the river. In their trolleys were jumpers, pyjamas, make-up bags and a change of clothes and shoes.

"I'm not wearing these trainers for the Queen!" Huxtable said.

The pair had come from North Yorkshire and as they left home in the early hours, the queue was reported to be on hold. "We figured the Oueen is there till 6.30am Monday so we had 48 hours," Sharp said. "That has to be enough."

The sun was out and London looking its shining best as the queue snaked along the Thames Path towards Tower Bridge.

The pair had already made friends with Roz Cox, 57, and Julie Heaton, 55. Cox was wearing a London marathon jersey and said she had completed the race four times, so was well prepared. Heaton, an NHS psychologist, said she felt the queue tapped into people's own emotional losses. "It feels like a

bonding, people coming together at a time of loss, she said.

By Bermondsey Wall, the queue slowed to a halt, but the smiles continued. Stewards along the way encouraged people along and everyone talked about what a well-organised queue it was. There was excitement as rumours filtered out that the new King and Prince of Wales were greeting queuers further up on the South Bank.

"You British are world expert queuers," said Francisco Pinto, a gardener from Chile, in between explaining British history to Marian and David Davenport from the West Midlands.

Behind them a man with a plastic bag was glad of the stop. "I'd just got to do this," said Alan Stoneman, 82, who had travelled from Essex. The last time he joined such a queue was in January 1965 to see Winston Churchill lying in state. "That was bitterly cold but was just five hours," he said. "This will be much longer but I'm prepared. I've got sandwiches, water and a sausage roll."

Back in Southwark Park, by lunchtime the sun had brought out more people. Among them was the Olympic champion Dame Kelly Holmes who said she had felt compelled to come. "In my head I was like, 'I have to join this queue', so I stopped all my plans for the weekend and here I am," she

"We're in the queue for the queue," said Lisa Nunn, 32, who was still waiting with her mother and father to get a wristband to enter the line. "The Queen worked 70 years for us," she added. "I think

we can give her a day." • The government will today advise people not to set off to join the queue . Entry will be closed hours before the end of the lying in state at 6.30am tomorrow. Early yesterday it had a peak wait time of more than 25 hours.

Editorial, page 26

The Queen's grandchildren standing vigil last night after arriving together, top right. Viscount Severn, the youngest, is 14. Below, Harry's uniform was missing the ER from the shoulder





Their hats could not hide their visible grief

# Harry's anguish at snub over 'ER' initials

→ Continued from page 1 are comparatively young". Buckingham Palace said the Queen's grandchildren were very keen to pay their respects" just as their parents had done on Friday night.

William – who led his cousins into the hall wearing his distinctive blue Order of the Garter sash and star – and Harry will have been quietly relieved to be wearing hats, which partly shielded their faces, but not enough to hide their visible grief. Peter, the Queen's eldest grandchild, kept his eyes closed for much of the vigil, while the strain of the moment was evident in the faces and stances of Zara Beatrice and Eugenie. The viscount's teenage fringe covered his face as he bowed his head, an image reminiscent of a 15-year-old William at his mother's funeral 25 years ago. The public mourners who had queued for up to 25 hours to see the Queen lying in state stared as they continued to file past.

This evening the Queen Consort will pay a personal tribute to the Queen, a "solitary woman" surrounded by male leaders. In the address, to be broadcast on the BBC. Camilla will say of her late mother-in-law: "She's been part of our lives for ever. I'm 75 now and I can't remember anyone except the Queen being there. It must have been so difficult for her being a solitary woman. There weren't women prime ministers or presidents. She was the only one so I think

she carved her own role. "She's got those wonderful blue eyes that when she

smiles they light up her whole face. I will always remember her smile. That smile is unforgettable."

Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie released a statement saying: "Goodbye dear Grannie, it has been the honour of our lives to have been your granddaughters and we're so very proud of you."

All eight grandchildren showed remarkable composure throughout the sombre watch. Then, in a lighter moment as they made their way back up the Grand Committee staircase at the end, Zara's right shoe came off her foot. Sharing a smile with Lady Louise, she reached down and replaced it. As the cousins emerged, Harry linked arms with Zara.

Earlier yesterday the King met military chiefs of staff at Buckingham Palace before heading to police operational headquarters in Lambeth to meet Sir Mark Rowley, the Metropolitan Police commissioner, Suella Braverman, the home secretary, and Sadiq Khan, the London mayor, and thank members of the emergency services and volunteers for their work in the run-up to the Queen's funeral. Afterwards Prince William joined him for an impromptu walkabout near Lambeth Bridge to meet and thank hundreds of people in the queue to see the Queen lying in state.

'You're nearly there," Charles, 73, said to the cheering crowd, who called out, "Long live the King," as he shook hundreds of

outstretched hands. William told the queue, which included people from Spain, Hong Kong and the Czech Republic: "Sorry you've waited so long you're over halfway. I'm sorry it's so cold. I hope your fingers and toes are OK. I've been praying for warmer nights for you all. It means an awful lot that you're here. She [the Queen] would never believe this, honestly, she really wouldn't. It's amazing."

Asked how his children were doing, William replied: "They're doing all right, thank you."

When greeted by a group from Wales who called out, "Come to Wales soon", William replied, "Bore da", Welsh for "good morning". Amanda O'Donoghue, 54, a transport worker from Bishop's Stortford, told the prince: "Give the corgis a squidge from me!", to which he replied: "I saw them the other day and they are being very well looked

The Prince and Princess of Wales then joined the King and the Queen Consort at Buckingham Palace for a lunch for 12 governorsgeneral, after which Charles received several prime ministers in the 1844 Room at the palace, including Justin Trudeau of Canada, Jacinda Ardern of New Zealand and Anthony Albanese of Australia. Tonight they will host most foreign heads of state and overseas dignitaries attending tomorrow's funeral, in a state event expected to be one of the grandest receptions yet held at the palace.

As the late monarch's grandchildren stood vigil, the queue for members of the public reached five miles long, with a waiting time of about 15 hours. The Queen will lie in state until 6.30am tomorrow, when more than two million people are expected to travel to London to pay their respects for her state funeral at Westminster Abbey, expected to be one of the grandest events of the

modern age The funeral will be followed by a committal service at St George's Chapel, Windsor, attended by the royal family, dignitaries and the Queen's personal staff, past and present.

Tomorrow night, at 7.30pm, only the Queen's closest family will return to St George's Chapel for a private burial. @RoyaNikkhah

# Kwarteng gambles by ripping uprules

## → Continued from page 1

Office for Budget Responsibility, the independent financial watchdog.

That could come as soon as November, when changes to the national living wage are made.

Kwarteng is also likely to announce changes to the Bank of England's mandate and a new government debt-

to-GDP rule then. Friday's statement will come two days after Jacob Rees-Mogg, the business secretary, sets out the final plans for the government's energy price guarantee,

which will freeze household bills at £2,500 a year. He will confirm a similar scheme for businesses.

Businesses setting up inside the new investment zones would benefit from an array of tax reliefs. A source said that

enhanced reliefs on business

rates, capital allowances and

stamp duty had been

discussed. Ministers are looking at cutting national insurance employer contributions, enabling companies to cut a significant amount from their tax bill if employees spent a certain period of time

# **GROWTH OR BUST**



working within the zones. Truss, who believes that the free ports announced by Sunak were not radical

enough, also intends to "liberalise" the planning system and reduce the restrictions and obligations placed on developers.

Quotas for affordable housing and other planning obligations, such as section 106 agreements, which require developers to build or to pay for infrastructure or community projects such as schools in exchange for planning permission, could also be scaled back or even scrapped. The

government would instead provide the funds to pay for

these works. There are also discussions around sweeping cuts to environmental protections, although the zones will continue to adhere to high building safety standards.

The government is hoping for a dozen provisional agreements to be ready by Friday, with the prime minister looking to launch more over the next 12 months. There is expected to be a time-limited window for local authorities to submit bids to qualify.

The fiscal event will take Editorial, page 26

place against a backdrop of growing economic uncertainty, with fears mounting that the UK could be heading towards a sterling

crisis on par with 1976. The prime minister's energy package is expected to slow inflation, while there are hopes that a recent fall in wholesale gas prices will continue. Her aides and a number of economists believe inflation could peak at 11 per cent in October, significantly below and earlier than the 15 per cent

forecast earlier in the year.



11am The Latvian president, Egils Levits, in Britain for the late Queen's funeral 1.05pm The broadcaster Dermot Murnaghan on breaking

the news of the Queen's death 2.05pm Ella Marks, who stood in the crowd as a young girl at the funeral of King George VI and has been invited to that of the Queen

3.05pm The naturalist and author Richard Mabey **4.10pm** The former British ambassador to the US Sir Kim

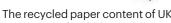
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# goodnight to 'Dearest Grannie'



aueued overnight in cold conditions to see the Queen's coffin

# Superfan tribes split over best spots to display their devotion

#### Megan Agnew

Mary-Jane Willows loves the sound of metal barriers clattering on to the streets of Westminster. "It means everything is getting organised," she says.

It is 10pm on Thursday and Willows, 68, is settling down for a night's sleep in a camping chair just off Parliament Square. She and her crew of royal superfans are zipped into military bivvy bags and wrapped in foil blankets – at that point of the week they were not allowed to use tents or sleeping bags for security reasons.

It is a hardcore existence, but they will endure. Because tomorrow, for the Queen's funeral, they will be in the 'best spot in the world".

Half a mile away there is another camp, also in the best spot in the world. They arrived "on site", on The Mall and overlooking Buckingham Palace, the previous Thursday. And they came with "equipment": bin liners and trolleys jammed with Union Jacks, hand warmers, underwear, first-aid kits, torches, baby wipes, wine gums and corned beef sandwiches.

These two groups are the most dedicated royal watchers on the planet, bound by births, weddings, jubilees and deaths, and held together by WhatsApp groups and meme-sharing. They are always the first ones to arrive, pitching up on the pavement.

John Loughrey, 67, and his friends on The Mall, Sky London, 62, and Maria Scott, 51, have done weddings together (Cambridge, Sussex, York, York), births (George, Charlotte, Louis), jubilees (diamond, platinum) and deaths (Diana, Princess of Wales; the Queen). "If you

want to be part of the gang you've got to be with the gang," London says. "It's the camaraderie. It's seeing

history and being part of it." They are allowed to set up tents at 10pm as long as they are down by 7am. "When you think about us camping, compared to a 70-year reign, it's nothing," London says. "We want to give back what she gave to us.'

Bernadette Christie, pictured, (Cambridge wedding, Sussex wedding, the Queen's 90th and the diamond and platinum jubilees) "didn't come for the second-best seat". The 68year-old joined them on Wednesday, having flown from Canada (her mother was British), stopping off at her aunt's house in west London where she keeps her gear. And did she get the number one spot? "Damn right."

The anxiety of claiming a space never eases. Other people, who have been luxuriating in their beds all week, will arrive tomorrow. "It's bloody annoving when they try and get in front of you," Christie says. "We stick up for each other." Next to her sits Lisa

Bush, 51, from Co Durham, who spent a week in the same spot for the Platinum Jubilee. The women take it in turns going to the lavatory or the shops; one person is always on guard. The lack of sleep is the biggest challenge. On Wednesday night they were woken up by what they thought was an earthquake. It turned out to be the soldiers practising their drumming formations

for the funeral. Back in Westminster,

Willows is well known in the community. She used to lead a children's charity and since her retirement can travel to SW1 when she needs to.

> This group will be moved at some stage by the police when officers need to sweep the area. Then, the group hopes, they will be identified as the original crowd and positioned at the barrier, as they were with previous events. Willows would prefer it if their planned location wasn't disclosed. "My heart breaks for that family having



with thousands of people staring at you, it must wrench you. So I'm here to support them. For us to be here is quite a natural, normal

Shirin Thorpe and Christine Whitsby, both 61 and retired, from Sevenoaks in Kent, sit next door. "We met up on Friday [the day after the Queen's death]," Thorpe says, "and we cried our eyes out, held each other's hand and then decided: 'We're going. I've got to say goodbye to my

Thorpe has brought a wrap dress, black fur stole and wide-brimmed hat for the day of the funeral. "I might have to have a little nip to Boots for provisions . . . I just threw in lipstick, a pencil for my eyebrows and a mascara," she says. Really, she'd like to have done a full face of make-up.

Then, through the street lights, appears Martin Buckley, 60, with a Pizza Express box. Buckley had been with the Buckingham Palace camp earlier in the day. What brought him over the border? "It was better for the shops here," he says.

Is the atmosphere different? "Yes, 100 per cent. Everybody up there wanted to be down here, but they were told yesterday morning they couldn't."

The next day, as expected, they are moved down the road by the security team.

Willows and her group want to know where they will end up for the funeral so they can "nest". They are holding out hope. "We'll get a great view, it'll go right past us," she says. "It'll be fine."

And if it's not? They're already planning for the coronation.

# Sebastian Faulks

# Weeping, emoting Britons have a King who can feel their pain

We have heard a great deal in the past week about tradition and continuity, which has been comforting at a time of loss. When the nation has finished mourning, however, it is likely that things are going to change - in a positive and interesting way.

In his many years as Prince of Wales, King Charles III earned a reputation for being engaged, determined and extremely hard-working. You didn't have to agree with all his views to recognise how driven he was. While he has already signalled that he will be more passive in the role of monarch, there is only so much that a person can destiny.

The Queen was one of a kind. She had deeper English roots than most of us, but she was also more European. She was not an aristocratic woman writ large not an exaggerated version of a grandee we all might once have met. Her achievement was to embody and represent the best of this country to the world without much resembling any of her fellow citizens.

When Harold Macmillan's wind of change began to blow, the Queen could be seen on Pathé newsreel and in blurred newspaper pictures relinquishing her sovereignty in former colonies around the world. While she was grace itself as she handed over freedom, you felt there was a measure of regret and trepidation. But politicians had determined the timings and she went along with them.

We will never know what she felt when her previous prime minister Anthony Eden tried to explain what he was doing in Suez or when Tony Blair told her that he intended to invade Iraq, with or without the United Nations' backing, and with no deadly weapons unearthed. Did she raise an eyebrow when Boris Johnson explained why he so sincerely believed that Brexit would be such a boon for her country? All we

know is that she did nothing to stop

In the young Queen's audiences with Winston Churchill, her first prime minister, one imagines that, for all his courtesy, he talked and she listened. Today we tend to see the opposite. The prime minister, Liz Truss, who seems so dismayingly underqualified for the position, would do well to rely on the experience of the King for support and, in so far as it is constitutionally permitted, guidance.

King Charles is not enigmatic like his mother. He is open and confiding and he will do the job differently. He will need to, because it is not the same country the Queen found in 1952. Perhaps the most interesting change is in its citizens' idea of their own entitlements. This first became clear at the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, in 1997. Doubtless many people felt true grief over the death of someone they had never met, but there seemed also to be a sense of indignation. The Queen was required, sometimes rudely, to acknowledge the feelings of her people. And once she had made sure her grandsons were protected and consoled, she did so.



The country over which the King begins his reign is not obviously better educated, more socially mobile or enlightened than the Britain of 1952. But it weeps a lot more. It knows what it likes and what it requires as if by right. Britons today are not politically restive but they are emotionally labile. It sometimes seems (to the despair of progressive politicians) as if those who work in vital jobs would accept pay restraint in return for words of tearful

The King seems to understand this change. His first address to the nation more than a week ago was emotionally open, inclusive and commanding. All the words were chosen with care, but there was one that resonated more than the others – when he undertook to serve his people with loyalty, respect and "love". And this from the man who once said "whatever 'in love' means".

Deep in her heart, Queen Victoria may have felt such an emotion for the people of India; Henry V, for all we know, felt it for England and Wales; and the late Queen surely felt it for Scotland. But has any other monarch in British history explicitly made "love" of his subjects a foundation stone of his reign?

If our very peculiar form of government (barely understood by some of us, let alone by the rest of the world) is to survive, the prime minister has to be more than the most ambitious person thrown up by a party machine and the monarch more than the image on a stamp. In the coming years, both sides will have to buy into the process wholeheartedly and find a way to invigorate an old country. From what we have seen of his public life in the past 70 years, the King seems to have the energy and resourcefulness to guide such changes. Even as we sigh at the apparently inexorable decline in the quality of our politicians, it is possible to feel, in the person of the new monarch, a sense of optimism for what lies ahead.

# Corbyn joins protest against 'inherently racist' police after rapper's shooting

## Glen Keogh

The Metropolitan Police were condemned as "inherently racist" at a demonstration outside New Scotland Yard yesterday amid rising anger over the death of Chris Kaba, the rapper who was fatally shot by a firearms officer.

Jeremy Corbyn, the former Labour Party leader, and Bell Ribeiro-Addy, the Labour MP for Streatham, south London, were among hundreds who lambasted the force over the 24-year-old's death earlier this month. They insisted that any officer involved in such a killing should be suspended

immediately. Kaba, an expectant father, was shot in the head through a car windscreen on September 5 after the vehicle was flagged to police as being linked to an earlier firearms incident.

One witness to the shooting claimed that Kaba had been asked at least 12 times to exit the vehicle, which was not registered in

Shortly afterwards, a single fatal shot was fired. It soon emerged that Kaba was

On September 9, the police watchdog, the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC), announced a murder investigation. However, the firearms officer involved was not suspended for a further three days. In a statement

released following a march attended by thousands last Saturday, the Met admitted that the shooting had had a "significant impact on public confidence".

Kaba's family will soon be able to view police bodycam footage of the shooting. The Police Federation, which represents rank-and-file officers, said that there was

"nothing to hide". Ken Marsh, the chairman, told the Evening Standard last week: "No one should make up their minds before they see what happened. The officer should not have been suspended and should be allowed to go back to work." About 500 people

gathered yesterday holding

Jeremy Corbyn addressed a crowd protesting



Chris Kaba, 24, who was shot by a police officer in south London

placards – many provided by the Socialist Workers Party declaring "Fight police racism". Chants included "Being black is not a crime". The protest took place as thousands of people lined the

opposite bank of the Thames in the queue to see the Queen lying in state at the Palace of Westminster. There were also protests in Manchester, Brighton and other cities.

Kaba's family were supported by members of the Forever Family group, whose followers wear a black military-style uniform, including stab vests. To cheers and applause, a spokesman told the crowd that the group had been "training in self-defence" for

two years to "protect communities".

Kaba's family was represented by his cousin, Jefferson Bosela, 27, who was visibly distressed as he told the crowd: "He is not here but we have a voice. I will fight for him until the end. This isn't normal, we can't let them get

away with this.' Corbyn told demonstrators that he had attended so victims of this kind of violence on either side of the Atlantic" are not forgotten. He added later: "The officer has a lot of questions to

answer." Kaba, of Wembley, northwest London, was a member of a drill rap group which had previously been

nominated for a Mobo award. He had convictions for two firearms-related offences.

Ribeiro-Addy claimed that a narrative had emerged that Kaba was a "black man and may have deserved it." "Noone deserves to die in that way," she said.

In a statement, the Met assistant commissioner Amanda Pearson said: "We continue to fully support the IOPC investigation as they work to establish the facts and try to answer the many questions Mr Kaba's family and others have around his tragic death."

Is this the saviour of our embattled police? News Review, page 24

# BBC hails King Huw's royal coverage... but he might be about to abdicate

**Rosamund Urwin** 

Huw Edwards had his phone stolen at a restaurant the night before the Queen died. So when the BBC realised how ill she was last Thursday and tried to contact their main news anchor, he did not answer. He was en route to the barber for a 1pm appointment.

When he arrived, he got a message, left by his quickthinking son, telling him: "Go to work immediately."

Edwards, 61, was at Broadcasting House in central London within 20 minutes, and on air in his unsettling black tie before

2pm. Edwards will be the "voice of the nation" again tomorrow as he leads the coverage of the state funeral, on air from 8am to 5pm. His schedule has been so gruelling over the past ten days that some of his fans have joked on Twitter that there should be a petition to allow him to go to bed, especially after his right eye started to look bloodshot. Others have suggested he deserves a knighthood.

He managed to squeeze in his postponed haircut a day later.

From the announcement of the Queen's death, Edwards has outclassed his peers on rival channels. He

had practised it often, although not - as has been widely reported – in his bathroom mirror. He was calm and word perfect, despite his voice cracking with emotion: "A few moments ago, Buckingham Palace announced the death

of Her Majesty Queen

Elizabeth II."

On ITV, poor Mary Nightingale seemed flustered when she could not find the Palace statement, while Channel 5's Dan Walker did not have quite the same gravitas. Unwilling to pause, he seemed to witter, saying that it "was probably one of those days where many of you watching tonight will be

shaken by what you have heard".

Almost 30 million viewers watched the BBC's coverage that afternoon and evening on its channels and on iPlayer, eclipsing its rivals.

While the Edwards

supremacy will have pleased BBC bosses, he is considering a possible departure from the corporation. Edwards, who earned at least £410,000 last year, has often hinted that 2023 will be when he moves on from News at Ten after 20 years. His contract is up in March, and he has said that he is looking at his options inside and outside the BBC. He was photographed this month at the offices of the



Huw Edwards has been a key news anchor for 20 years

radio giant Global, which owns LBC and Classic FM and has poached BBC stars including Andrew Marr, Emily Maitlis and Jon Sopel.

"It's likely the BBC would have to offer Huw a plum TV job to keep him, and the problem is, they're in rather short supply at the moment," said one BBC insider. "Amol [Rajan] has just got *University* Challenge; Fiona Bruce will expect a long stint on Question Time given that [David] Dimbleby did a quarter of a century and only went aged 80, and Clive [Myrie] is now everyone's darling so he'll surely keep Mastermind as long as he

In the wider coverage, there has been the occasional hiccup: the World News presenter Yalda Hakim tweeted that the Queen had died, hours too early. Overall, though, bosses including the new chief of news, Deborah Turness, will be pleased, given the corporation's oftentroubled relationship with

the royal family. As David Dimbleby said in his recent series Days That Shook The BBC, the broadcaster is more fearful of Buckingham Palace than any government. The coverage appears to have been well received by viewers too. Its live stream of the lying in state attracted 7.5 million

views in 48 hours, with an average viewing time of 12 minutes. The BBC attracted far fewer complaints than it did for Prince Philip's death last year (670 compared with almost 110,000). "The mistake then was clearing both channels' schedules,' said a former BBC journalist.

"This time, BBC2 is still giving people an alternative to the news... It has allowed some younger stars to shine – I think Chris Mason has shown why he was the right pick for political editor – but also we have the big guns: Kirsty Young back for the funeral, David [Dimbleby], Clive, Mishal Husain, and, of course, Huw.

# All hail Charles III — the gregarious, green-fingered grandpa of the nation

Josh Glancy followed the new King's 1,700-mile accession tour to find reverence, enthusiasm - and occasionally a little bit of indifference

He was waiting for it almost his entire life, but nothing could have prepared Charles for the epic and exhausting reality of his accession tour of Britain. Nor for the reverence, warmth, irritation and blunt indifference that accompanied his journey through Scotland, Northern Ireland

and Wales last week. From Edinburgh to Belfast and Cardiff, Charles and Camilla moved from castle to cathedral and back, greeting their subjects and impressing the new reality upon them: the Queen is dead; long live King Charles III. But how did it go? Will the new monarch be loved and accepted by all his subjects? Can the wave of griefinduced goodwill that has carried him round the country be consolidated into a popular and successful reign?

Having followed the royal motorcade from capital to capital, I found most of those I spoke to optimistic that Charles's long apprenticeship and the example set by his mother would set his kingship in good stead. "He's been learning the ropes his entire life," said Katy Sheehan, 29, who had come to Cardiff from nearby Cwmbran on Friday to be part of history. "I think he'll do his best to do his mum proud. It's a hard act to follow, though. She was like the British nan, but I think my generation has a more mixed opinion of Charles.'

The general consensus was that, fountain pen tantrums aside, Charles had done a pretty good job in his first week as King, managing the strange cocktail of emotions and gruelling schedule with good humour and enthusiasm. In a You-Gov poll 73 per cent said he had performed well so far, and only 5 per cent said he had performed poorly.

The challenges and pitfalls that await King Charles were also evident on the road. Cardiff showed perhaps the least enthusiastic response. Despite his long service as Prince of Wales, Charles is not generally loved in the principality. He did his duty, appearing in the Senedd and reading words of thanks in passable Welsh. But the throng lining the road

from the Senedd to Cardiff Castle, where Charles met Mark Drakeford, the first minister, was sparse and sprinkled with

"I'm optimistic about Charles but we'll have to wait and see how things go," said Clark Durbin, 63. "Today is big, but the next time he comes down here, very few people will turn out. I don't think the youngsters are much interested."

Others were more critical. "We don't need an Englishman imposed upon us," said Nick Wall, who was wearing a yellow #notmyking T-shirt. "All this stuff belongs in a Disney film. It's time we grew up."

The king will have been reassured elder statesman whose mistakes

Yet the generational divide kept cropping up. "This all just feels like a waste of time and money," said Graham, who was working in a skateboard shop on the Royal Mile. "Queen or not, king or whatever, look at the stats: we do not want to

One group of Edinburgh University



Underlying Charles's dash round the kingdom is a strong sense that the Union is fraying: Scotland is still weighing up another push for independence; Brexit has thrown the fragile equilibrium of Northern Ireland into disarray; and in Wales the dragon is stirring. The loss of a widely loved queen, who was more popular than the monarchy itself, could easily weaken the bonds between the nations

then, to see the huge crowds that packed Edinburgh on Monday to watch the Queen's cortège pass from the Palace of Holyroodhouse to St Giles' Cathedral. Many were convinced by Charles's branding as a national grandfather, an whether political interference or romantic turmoil – were all behind him. Having a cheery Camilla by his side didn't hurt.

be ruled by Westminster."

students I spoke to said they found themselves surprisingly emotional over the Queen's death but felt a little doubtful about Charles. "Everyone had such deep affection for the Queen, but no one loves Charles," said Jess, 20. "People remem-





done right

ber the Diana stuff, or they've learnt about it from The Crown. He's been really good about the climate, but overall I'm less excited about him, definitely."

Perhaps even more than his nowdistant divorce, it is Charles's environmental credentials that are his most common association. Many now view his leadership on the subject as prescient. "He is a man of vision," said Durbin. "Like many men of vision, like Galileo, people laughed at him initially. But not any

Many people want Charles to continue leading on climate change but also feel strongly that he shouldn't be seen as an overly political figure, which will make for a difficult balancing act.

"All the sustainable, green, architectural stuff is important," said Alex Winton, 59, who had driven into Edinburgh from Pitlochry, Perthshire, to pay her respects. "It's part of what makes him interesting."

The other existential threat, at least to Scottish unionists, is the spectre of independence. Those who reject separation were buoved by the show of support for the new King, who addressed the Scottish parliament in a Prince Charles Edward Stewart tartan kilt. The queue to view Elizabeth's coffin stretched all the way from St Giles' to the Meadows park, peaking at an estimated ten hours. "This is Nicola Sturgeon's worst nightmare," said Keith Orr, from Pumpherston, West Lothian, who was four hours into his queue. "She'll not enjoy watching this."

Despite Charles's indications that he will move the monarchy in a sleeker, more modern direction, it was the pageantry of his tour that most enthused the crowds. The Phantom IV did not travel over the Irish Sea, and onlookers in Northern Ireland were disappointed by the fast-moving and not very regal BMW that served in its stead.

In Belfast on Tuesday the royal visit was greeted with enthusiasm in some quarters and studied indifference, even disdain, in others. On the Shankill Road, the jugular of loyalist Belfast, a huge impromptu flower tribute to the Queen sprang up. Yet, as elsewhere, the response to Charles was cautious opti-

mism rather than rapturous enthusiasm. "Time will tell, that's all I can say," said Eunice Stuart, 67, who was laying a wreath at the Shankill memorial. "He's been a good son, so he has. He'll be received here with open arms. But he must keep Northern Ireland part of the

United Kingdom. That's what we want." The unresolved matter of Brexit and the Northern Ireland protocol is still front of mind for many loyalists in Belfast, with recent polling showing that more than half of voters support a united Ireland within 15 to 20 years. Yet for many this political anxiety only adds to the appeal of the monarchy, which can act as a bond-

"The monarchy won't falter here in Northern Ireland," said Kathy Osgood, 51, a military veteran. "Everybody will rally

The King made a surprise visit to meet people queueing to file

past his mother's coffin yesterday. He has been to all four UK

behind the King; we need him in these turbulent times. Sinn Fein has played a careful hand over Queen Elizabeth's death, sending two representatives, Michelle O'Neill. its vice-president, and Alex Maskey, the

assembly Speaker, to meet Charles at

Hillsborough Castle. In the republican

areas of west Belfast fireworks were said to have been heard on the evening of Elizabeth's death, but the general response was studied indifference. "I couldn't care less who is King," said Thomas Gallagher, 65, puffing on a cigarette outside the Davitts Gac pub. "I'd get

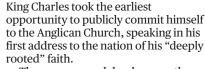
rid of it if I could, but people here don't pay it much attention either way." For those who were paying attention, last week was mostly about saying goodbye to the Queen. But it was also a chance for renewal, pushing people to think about what the institution of monarchy is

in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland. Will Charles be accepted by his new subjects? If he continues to come across as a gregarious, green-fingered grandpa of the nation, then the answer from the streets of this still united kingdom is a firm and moderately enthusiastic yes.

for and what it means to them, whether

# Gavin Ashenden

# Playing nice to all religions may be wishful thinking



The new monarch has become the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, with the striking title Defender of the Faith. As one of his first acts last week, he convened the leaders of the major religions in the UK at a meeting at Buckingham Palace.

In a statement to those assembled, he spoke of Britain as a "community of communities", a diverse nation with many religions and beliefs. He had a duty to protect this diversity, "including by protecting the space for faith itself," he said. "I hold myself bound to respect those who follow other spiritual paths, as well as those who seek to live their lives in accordance with secular ideals."

There is no doubt that this is a reasonable, pragmatic and culturally and politically well attuned ideal for the monarch of a multicultural society at the beginning of the 21st century. But the advent of different competing faiths introduces a level of potential conflict

that the monarchy needs to avoid if it is to flourish, and perhaps even survive.

The King's interpretation of faith may commend itself to some, but may offend and alienate many of those who practise their faith. There will be many adherents of Christianity, other religions and atheism who respond to this inclusivity by saying, "Not in my name." This is not through bigotry necessarily, but from a commitment to the exclusive truth claims of their religions.

The reality is that Christianity, other religions such as Islam, and atheism are ultimately incompatible with each other and, across the world, engaged in an energetic struggle for hearts and minds.

The King's statement raises a serious philosophical and spiritual issue that he has long been concerned to find a way to manage. He has form: he gave earlier signs of his thinking in what became a notorious interview with Jonathan Dimbleby in 1994. He expressed the view that he wanted to be "Defender of Faith", rather than Defender of the Faith, which refers specifically to his role in the Church of England. This has haunted him ever since. The critical and

cynical saw it as the religious equivalent of what Gerald Ratner had achieved in undermining public confidence in his own brand. In religious terms, such indiscriminate accommodation of other ideologies diminished the claims to uniqueness that were foundational for Christianity. To the orthodox Christian, this is a fatal diminishment of Jesus's own claims to be the unique Son of God, and the Way, the Truth and the Life. In 2015, Charles attempted a subtle

and reasonable repair of the damage in an interview on BBC Radio 2. He



explained that he had intended to say that he wanted Anglican Christianity to act as a form of protective umbrella to all

other faith positions. This is, at first sight, commendable and his mother as Queen said something similar with greater precision and clarity. But this otherwise hospitable view depends on the other faiths sharing the same outlook. Increasingly, as both Islam on the one hand and populist atheism on the other both grow in confidence and numbers, they have become more muscular and ambitious in their prospective influence. The model of a rather limp (if generous) C of E protective umbrella no longer fits the facts on the ground.

His statement last week, too, disturbs a hornets' nest of theological and cultural controversy. The underlying difficulty is that this apparent generosity overlooks and contradicts what some of the major religions think of themselves.

Islam and Christianity in particular have long-established beliefs that each respectively tells the clearest and most accurate truth about the nature of God and what it is to be human. And, while there are elements of similarity and overlap, they stand in opposition to one another at critical and non-negotiable points. Within more conservative circles of the church, both inside and beyond Anglicanism, there has long been a concern that King Charles was more interested in spirituality in general than in a committed representation of

Christianity in particular. As Prince of Wales, he took the view that his constitutional apprenticeship should involve voyages of philosophical discovery, alongside his patronage of various causes. As a young man, Charles came under the influence of the highly charismatic writer and adventurer, Laurens van der Post, a disciple of and

conduit for the ideas of Karl Jung. One of Jung's ideas was that religion provided a universal language of selfdiscovery and self-realisation. For Jung, the specific claims of the religion were not as important as the fact that it acted

as a vehicle for an internal journey. Across the western world, something of a civil war has developed within the churches, between those who believe in inclusivity and advocates for exclusivity,

or the liberals and the conservatives The Anglican Communion in particular has come close to schism over it.

Charles's self-declaration that he was interested in faith in general appeared to conservative Christians to mark him out more as a Jungian than a Christian.

His recent statement, too, prioritises the nice above the real. The reality is the monarchy the King has inherited reflects competitive religious partisanship in both its history and language, as well as in the oaths that define it.

We will discover more of where the new King is poised on the scale between personal allegiance to Jesus and public representation of the state church during the coronation service, with its

balance of competing ideologies. But it remains to be seen whether or not wishful thinking, however royal, can create a bridge across religious and philosophical fault lines that have proved intractable through history.

Gavin Ashenden was chaplain to the Queen from 2008 to 2017 Letters, page 28

# A rather fragile truce



The Windsors are (for now) united in grief. But after a row over a Palace event and with Harry's forthcoming book, Royal Editor *Roya Nikkhah* asks how long it can last

he sight of the Prince of Wales and Duke of Sussex united in their grief and shoulder to shoulder behind the Queen's coffin looked like progress last week. A year earlier, their cousin, Peter Phillips, had to act as their buffer at the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral in the aftermath of Harry and Meghan's interview with Oprah Winfrey. Last night, in another poignant moment, they stood vigil at the head and foot of the coffin, flanked by their cousins.

Seeing the brothers together again is a reminder of their quarter-century of shared grief, which for so long was at the heart of their unique and seemingly unshakeable bond. For William, walking behind the coffin had painful echoes of walking in Diana's funeral cortège. It had been "challenging", he told a member of the public at Sandringham on Thursday, adding: "It brought back a few memories. It's one of those moments when you think: I've prepared myself for this, but I'm not prepared." It is hard to believe Harry felt differently.

However, the pictures of them arriving separately at Balmoral the day the Queen died indicated the bad blood between them. Behind the scenes, those close to the brothers confirm there has been "no meaningful rapprochement" despite the pair seeing more of each other over the past week than in the two and a half years since the Sussexes departed these shores.

Both joined the royal family at a Buckingham Palace dinner on Tuesday night after the Queen's coffin returned to the capital, but it is understood that there have been no cups of tea at their neighbouring Windsor homes and the lines of communication have been mostly through their aides.

On Thursday, they shared a brief chance encounter away from the public gaze on Harry's 38th birthday, as William, 40, returned to Windsor after collecting Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis from school. Harry and Meghan, 41, were in their car and the brothers drove past each other but then stopped, reversed, wound down their windows and chatted for a while.

Only the most optimistic royal watchers saw the unexpected joint appearance of the brothers and their wives at Windsor Castle last Saturday as anything more than a temporary goodwill gesture to move the narrative beyond discord and division in the run-up to tomorrow's state funeral.

William suggested to Harry that he and Meghan join him and Catherine – a group once known as the "fab four" – on the walkabout. "The Prince of Wales thought it was an important show of unity at an incredibly difficult time," said his spokesman.

On Thursday, joining her husband at Sandringham, Catherine diplomatically told a member of the public that the royal family was "sticking together and sharing each other's grief and helping each other cope".

But a friend of the brothers who was well placed as events unfolded in recent days, told of the reality: "The joint appearances take effort. There was an understanding that 'we need to show solidarity' not just 'we need to do this

because it's our duty'. But I don't think it goes much beyond that. There have been some awkward moments this week. I definitely don't get the sense of any deeper meaningful rapprochement or a sense that this is it, things will be mended."

A source close to Harry agreed that being in each other's company had at times been "uncomfortable" and "difficult" for the brothers but said: "Everybody is trying their best."

The absence of reconciliation may come as a disappointment to Winfrey, a friend of the Sussexes, who last week said she hoped "burying the dead" would be an "opportunity for peacemaking".

In informed royal circles, the mood music is that peacemaking is impossible while potential bombs such as Harry's "intimate and heartfelt" memoirs are still to be detonated. If Meghan's recent interview with an American magazine is anything to go by, the Sussexes have plenty more to say that William and the royal family will not want to hear.

Meghan said that "just by existing", she and Harry were "upsetting the hierarchy", and she revealed that the Sussexes were working on a "historical documentary" to "share" their "love story" for Netflix. "I've never had to sign anything that restricts me from talking ... I have a lot to say until I don't," she said.

The fear in royal circles is that their interview with Winfrey may prove to be the appetiser for a meatier main course of more revelations in Harry's book. Its publication date is unclear, and sources close to Harry will not confirm reports that it will be delayed, but insist the memoir is "not as vilifying" as many people expect: "I think people forget he's had a whole life and do him a disservice to assume he'll only talk about the past few years."

When Harry's book and the Sussexes' documentary finally emerge, if their experiences of this historic past week feature alongside their past grievances, William and Harry's relationship will fracture further. A friend of both brothers says: "We know there are other things that will come out in the future that will be very damaging."



Harry and William arrive to join last night's vigil at

Westminster Hall

Sources close to William say he is "solely focused on doing what is right to honour the Queen". While he understands the public fascination with him and his brother, he is "processing his grief and the death of his grandmother, rather than sitting there processing his relationship with Harry".

William has been adamant since his grandmother's death that nothing – particularly not sibling discord – should detract from the royal family's and the nation's tributes to the Queen. "That weighs on him a lot, he doesn't want that," says a friend. It is a view shared by Harry, who last week told a friend: "People need to just stop talking about all this stuff and focus on my grandmother."

Whether the brothers even want to be reconciled is doubtful. As a friend of Harry's says, "the world wants them to reconcile" but "it is very hard to make any personal decisions" with the added public weight of "how does it look?" every time they are together.

A friend of the Sussexes says: "They are very sensitive to how everything is happening and very much see the bigger picture, not just from a personal point of view but from the family's point of view. Meghan is not afraid of throwing in a hand grenade here and there, but there are no toys being thrown out of the pram now. Their view is, 'Lets get on and do it—we'll be where we need to be and we won't be where we don't need to be'."

The Sussexes had thought they would be at Buckingham Palace tonight, along-side the King and Queen Consort, who will host a reception for foreign heads of state and overseas guests attending the funeral, expected to be one of the grandest state events held at the Palace. It is understood that the Sussexes were asked to the event, but their invitations were later "rescinded", with the Palace clarifying that the event was for "working members of the royal family" only.

A friend of the Sussexes said: "It is beyond bonkers if they're not there. Everyone is coming in from around the world to pay their respects to the Queen." A source close to the Sussexes says those kind of decisions, together with the Palace's initial edict that Harry could not wear military uniform at last night's vigil, which was subsequently overturned, make him feel as if "the majority of the operation is against you — it's hard, nobody likes to feel like they're being excluded".

Friends of Harry's say that while the brotherly bond is not yet healing, "he could not be happier or more fulfilled by his family dynamic now" with Meghan and their children, Archie and Lilibet. But those close to him concede that his return to the UK and the royal family fold, however complicated, brings a twinge of "regret over a missed opportunity of what could have been" and a feeling that "it didn't have to be this ugly".

The Sussexes will return to California soon after the funeral, closing another sad chapter on a broken brotherly bond. A lifelong friend of William and Harry says: "They are both just doing their jobs and will go back to their own lives after that. It's all really sad, I just wish they were together, to help each other for the rest of their lives, which is what they were born to do."

@RoyaNikkhah



Being in each other's company has been difficult

# **Quentin Letts**

# Silvery and sparkling, the greatest show on earth

At any other London theatre the entrance of a slightly wild-haired toff called Rupert in gold and scarlet tails, untipped billiard cue in hand, would have reduced the audience to laughter. The sight of Rupert Carington at Westminster Hall last Monday morning met, however, with respectful silence.

There have been

moments this week

some awkward

In sauntered the 7th Baron Carrington, not altogether unlike a chap returning from lunch at the Chelsea Arts Club. From the 1,200 onlookers, there came not a single snigger. On the death of the Queen, Carrington became occupant of an office, Lord Great Chamberlain, that stretches back to the Norman Conquest.

Chamberlains supervise the royal robing room of the Palace of Westminster. When King Charles arrived for a ceremony at which he promised to follow parliament's will, Carrington escorted him to his seat. Did it perfectly. Not too constipated. Not too camp. He found just the right measure of amiable jauntiness to suggest that this ornate ceremony was entirely natural, even though it had not taken place for 70 years

What a week of pageantry we had. Proclamations of the new reign were made, first from a balcony at St James's Palace, then from cathedral steps and other municipal mandapams across the kingdom. Flunkeys in ruffs and buckled shoes bellowed the accession of our new "liege lord". Cannons boomed. Regimental bands parped. Standards were lowered and serried ranks of military men and women came marching over the autumnal horizon, colours swaying to a hypnotic beat and the slow creak of a Victorian guncarriage carrying the Queen's coffin. The horses pulling it had been trained to ignore sobs from mourning onlookers.

Most us will have a favourite moment. Was it the tolling of Big Ben and the thud of artillery fire as Wednesday's procession moved slowly up the Mall? Was it the band playing Beethoven's funeral march No 1, the pipers' skirling laments in Edinburgh, or the moment those young Grenadiers, temples matted by sweat, removed their bearskin hats and with perfect choreography carried the lead-lined coffin to the catafaloue?

the lead-lined coffin to the catafalque? Cold logic says this sort of thing is



Horses trained to ignore sobs

Lord Carrington is the new Lord Great Chamberlain Ruritanian. The heart says otherwise. At Monday's exchange of addresses ceremony, Carrington was accompanied by the doublet-and-breeched yeomen of the guard and the swan-plumed gentlemen at arms, whacking medieval halberds and poleaxes on the Norman flagstones. Halberds! Gilbert and Sullivan nonsense, some may say. Actually, it felt ghostly, pre-medieval, a paradoxical mix of myth and reality as these symbolic rituals presented the raw truth of the Queen's death. It took place under a hammerbeam roof whose oak struts must have been acorns long before King Cnut's day. Monarchs come, monarchs go, monarchy endures.

The people dancing this timeless pavane were old enough for *Dad's Army* but they knew precisely what to do and did so with ramrod spines. Like agaves that blossom once every few decades, they flowered from obscurity to be brief stars of the spectacle. When the Queen's coffin reached Edinburgh it was attended by the Royal Company of Archers with Balmoral bonnets and loaded quivers. On parade in Cardiff we had both a magnificent goat and the First

Minister, Mark Drakeford. Spot the difference. Even the mundane business of moving the royal coffin into the C-17 transporter plane was given dignity by the Queen's Colour Squadron. Arrival at a rain-lashed RAF Northolt in west London saw the new state hearse – whoever knew we had such a thing? – as it purred into position and calmly took control of the next leg of the seamless display.

There may not be much call, in today's haberdashery world, for gold gimp and orris cord with gilt tags. Pith helmets and leopard-skin aprons (for marching-band drummers) may be niche. Yet suddenly these things all made sense. After the Queen's death the country gulped, "What do we do next?" Tradition was our strength and our stay. Tradition saved the day.

Funerary pomp has never been so detailed, so purgative, so majestically theatrical. Twenty-first century Britain flays itself for many failings but when it comes to stately ritual we still show the world a clean set of silver-spurred heels. Don't be modest. These royal obsequies have been the greatest show on earth.

# Me

Whether it be zooming around Cuba in a classic car, or helping with tricky diplomacy, the Queen Consort is Charles's own strength and stay. *Julian Payne* reveals the King won't make key decisions without Camilla's approval





first met the Duchess of Cornwall, now Queen Consort, during the interview process for the role of communications secretary to their royal highnesses in late 2015. Before the meeting I was reminded that my role was very much a joint appointment, meaning that if the Queen Consort did not approve of you then you would not get the job, no matter how successful you had been in the process up to that point.

So, it was not without a modicum of trepidation that I approached this final hurdle in my efforts to join the royal household. Luckily for me, the person I met that morning was a kind, empathetic and extremely welcoming individual – a world away from the caricature that had existed in years gone by. After just 20 minutes it was immediately clear why, for those that have met her, she is one of the most popular members of the royal family and for the rest, she is perhaps its greatest secret weapon.

I recall, during the blur of that first meeting, one of the final things she asked me was about my own life. What did I do outside work, and did I have a family? When I said that I was married with a daughter, Cassia, then aged one, and with another one on the way, the Queen Consort said she felt the presence of a family would be very helpful to counter some of the more unusual elements of royal life. Her view, as someone who had spent more than 50 years outside the institution before marrying into it, was that it was important not to lose your grip on the real world - or to get "red carpet fever" as it is known within the house-

When some years later the opportunity presented itself for my family to attend an away day in Liverpool, the duchess remembered everything that I had told her about them (she sent us flowers when our daughter Eleanor was born in 2017), and insisted I introduce her amidst all the rushing round of the day. She made a real point of chatting to my children and getting to know my in-laws, Linda and Brian, proud Liverpudlians with whom she discussed happy memories of previous visits to the city as a younger woman, when days at Aintree racecourse were followed by evenings at the Adelphi hotel. Naturally everyone was completely charmed - a trick I saw repeated time and time again as she went round the country meeting people and finding out about their lives. It is this innate curiosity and interest in people

Camilla encourages Charles to join in at engagements, and had a warm relationship with the Queen. She ensured the meeting with the Trumps in 2019 went smoothly and enjoyed

motoring in Cuba

that makes her such an asset to the institution. She would often tell me that she preferred not to have extensive briefing notes on the people she was due to meet because she preferred to find out about them on the day as it made things so much more natural and interesting.

In many ways that day also encapsulated how much of a perfect ally to the King she is. She is someone who knows how to connect the institution to the outside world because she has lived in both places. Members of the royal family are, by nature of their birth, unable to get entirely outside the bubble so they benefit from others who can provide additional context. The Queen Consort knows just how to do that. Whether it was encouraging the King to join in at engagements such as a tea dance or driving a classic car around the streets of Old Havana on an official visit to Cuba, she brought a sense of fun to the King's work as Prince of Wales, and she will no doubt do the same in his new role (when circumstances permit).

As anyone who knows her will tell you, there is always a twinkle in her eye that suggests she is never taking herself too seriously no matter how grand the moment. She respects the role and the institution completely but not at the expense of keeping her own feet firmly on the ground.

## FRIENDSHIP WITH THE QUEEN

The kindness she showed my own family was perhaps also influenced by how much her own children and grandchildren mean to her. She would always be careful to make time to see them as often as she could. I remember them coming to stay at Clarence House which created a slightly chaotic but warm atmosphere amidst all the comings and goings. Whenever I saw her with the King's own children and their families it was always surprising how normal and almost ordinary it felt. I recall when we were doing the photoshoot for the King's 70th birthday and his two sons were there with their own wives and children, the happy chaos of the group felt just like my own family gatherings as stories were exchanged and babies were kissed. The shot that emerged perfectly captures the easy atmosphere of the day, helped in part by one of my colleagues dressing up as a bear in an attempt to make the children laugh.

When the Queen announced that it was her "sincere wish" that the duchess be granted the title of Queen Consort in a

message marking the 70th anniversary of her reign in 2022, she made particular reference to her "loyal service". This is the characteristic which is valued most at the heart of the family. Putting the needs of the institution ahead of your own is something that the Queen Consort instinctively understands and it has informed her approach to her work over the last 17 years. Helped in no small way, as she has said herself, by having had the late Duke of Edinburgh as the defining example of how to discharge the role of

Having seen the late Queen and the Queen Consort together on many occasions across the years I was always struck by the warmth that existed between them. Away from the cameras I would see them talking animatedly - catching up on the latest news, sharing a joke or perhaps discussing equine matters – a subject about which they shared a great interest. Indeed I am sure it will be the Queen Consort who will now be the central figure at Royal Ascot in years to come, such is her passion for horseracing.

The announcement from the Queen earlier this year brought to an end nearly 20 years of speculation about the title she would have in this next phase of her public life. At the time of their marriage in 2005, it was said that upon the King's accession she would be known as Princess Consort. This was done in recognition of sensitivities about the legacy of the late Princess of Wales. But as the years went by and her role grew it became more and more clear that this was perhaps something that should be reconsidered. After all, if she was to be prevented from taking on the title simply because she was the King's second wife, what did that say about the position of second wives the world over? Should she be denied the same position as

some sort of punitive measure? Indeed, when one journalist claimed that she "didn't deserve the role because of what had happened in the past", it felt like a slightly vindictive point of view which, happily, as the polls subsequently showed, was not the opinion of the majority of the public and evidently nor was it the view of the late Oueen herself.

Despite the many who





the key ingredients to what drives her. Partnership is important. Having someone to share the extraordinary experiences that the King has had over the last almost two decades has, I am sure, made the role much more enjoyable. I often saw how humour would help them get through long days - this might just be sharing a joke in a snatched moment between engagements or making the fifth photo opportunity of the day a little more jolly simply because they were doing it together. Then, at the end of the day, the chance to discuss what had happened on the way home also helped them to decompress. This modus operandi will without doubt help the King to

> As well as being a great partner, I also found the Queen Consort to be an excellent adviser for the King. In my world of communications, her understanding of the media was extraordinary and it was one where she had an instinctive approach that helped enormously. Indeed, when I talked to the royal rota, the group of journalists whose job it is to report on the royal family, it was always said that the Queen Consort is one of their favourite members of the family. In fact, had her life gone in a different direction I think that she would have quite liked to have been a journalist herself. The photographers love working with her because she always takes the time to "give them the shot", looking down the lens

discharge his duties in this next chapter.

Camilla" was a long-held goal within the

household, I can assure you there was never any great masterplan to do this.

Certainly, whenever you mentioned the

topic with the Queen Consort herself, she

merely stared at you sphinx-like, giving

you no real sense of what she thought

about the topic. She certainly never

instructed me to do anything to advance

the argument and neither did the King.

Much like her wider work, I think she sim-

ply felt if it was meant to be it would hap-

pen, but it was never a role that she

If titles are not the pre-eminent focus in

the Queen Consort's life I think partner-

ship, duty and service, mixed with a

healthy sense of humour, are probably

actively campaigned for.

THE PERFECT PARTNER



# Kathy Lette

There's nothing stuffy about Camilla – or I'd have been locked in the Tower long ago

**knows** 

outside

**bubble** 



The most memorable feature of most upper-class Brits is the nose, chiefly because they're always looking down it. The only way to find out what's going on inside them is open heart surgery. Well, our new Queen Consort is their antithesis. Camilla is a class act, not swayed by class. Much like her motherin-law, she treats everyone the same,

from maid to monarch. The first time I met Camilla Parker Bowles way back in the 1990s I inquired about the pressures of being in the myopic gaze of the harsh media spotlight. She immediately endeared herself to me by revealing how wellmeaning American matriarchs, taking pity on her weathered complexion, kept posting over their cosmetic surgeons' details. Instead of taking umbrage, Camilla chortled self-deprecatingly, their efforts only serving to give her more

I hadn't expected the future Queen of



England to be more disarming than a UN peacekeeping force, but reading between those lines that day what I saw was warmth, wit, compassion and great strength of character. Candid and convivial, she is expert at puncturing pomposity with a wry aside or comic

where others might look away

or perhaps encouraging the

Whenever we meet in public, either at informal cocktail parties or more restrained charity events, I notice how our new Queen Consort has a talent for making people relax in her company, even those who should come stamped with a warning: "May cause drowsiness." No matter how dull the guest, the man who put the bore into Bordeaux or the tweedy, beige battle-axe who insists on singing her own praises for approximately eternity - Camilla listens with amused attention, offering little witticisms and one-liners.

There is absolutely nothing stuffy about her. If there was, I would have



King to pose or take part in an activity which she knew would help make their lives a little easier. For the writers, she was always quick to remember their names and ask after their families. On flights home at the end of the tours, she and the King would head to the back of the plane to chat to them about the trip they had just done and to thank them for

Perhaps the moment that summed up her approach best was when President Trump and the first lady came for a state visit in 2019. Shortly after their arrival at Buckingham Palace, afternoon tea was scheduled at Clarence House for the prince, the president, the duchess and the first lady. This much anticipated moment had been whipped up (wrongly) by some media into some kind of showdown between the environmentalist and the climate change sceptic. When the obligatory photocall took place, just before they went in, everybody's nerves were very much on edge.

As they left and as if to say, "I know what you are all thinking but don't worry ..." the Queen Consort gave a little wink to her team which was caught on camera. It perfectly encapsulated her approach, which was: yes, this is serious international diplomacy, but it is also just a cup of tea. As it turned out, all four of them got on very well and the meeting overran by quite some time.

As well as her role as Queen Consort, there is also a significant aspect of her working life which exists entirely independently of the King, which is her philanthropic and military associations. These number almost 100 in total. The thing that struck me about many of them was that they were not always the most glamorous or newsworthy organisations that she could have chosen but they were things that mattered to her and places where she believed she could make a difference. Topics included loneliness and ageing, literacy, and domestic violence. In each case she would spend a lot of time learning about the issues privately before taking on any kind of official or public-fac-

In the case of domestic violence, it was only after many years of visits to refuges and sexual assault referral centres that she agreed to become patron of the group SafeLives. In each case she also sought to make tangible contributions to the success of their work rather than simply being a figurehead.

I recall one related project where the duchess convinced Boots the chemist to donate thousands of pre-packed washbags for women who had been required to undergo medical examinations as a result of sexual assault. She created these after hearing harrowing stories of the necessary but "dehumanising" effect these examinations had on the victims. For somebody to give you something as simple as some shower gel and other hygiene products in the immediate aftermath was seen as a small but valued act of kindness following an incredibly difficult experience, because it showed that someone cared.

## A PASSION FOR CHARITY

But for me, at least, the most poignant of her charitable activities was the event she did every Christmas for children who were seriously ill and in some cases in end-of-life care. The charities that provided respite for families and carers were invited to Clarence House along with the children to help decorate the Christmas tree followed by a festive lunch. The event had something very special about it. Not just because the children were greeted by a reindeer and a real-life soldier putting baubles on the tree with his sword, but because you saw the sheer delight in the eyes of the children who came to visit. Their parents also had a wonderful day out, which I suspect might not have been something that happened very often given their very challenging circumstances.

sacrosanct. Such was her love of the Radio 4 programme (even more so than Strictly Come Dancing) that she had even appeared on it playing herself. In fact, it was quite prudent to ensure you had a reasonable grasp of the currently plot twists and storylines in order to ensure you could join in with some of her conversations during downtime on tour. In many ways the King and Queen Con-

sort are like so many other happily married couples. They go for walks with their rescue dogs, they share a love of reading and classical music, and they spend as much time with their children and grandchildren as they can. But unlike others of a similar age, the King and Queen Consort are about to enter a new chapter of their public life at a time when many of us will have been retired for several years.

The way she has gone about this phil-

anthropic work alongside her other royal

duties was reflective of the personality I

saw. Hardworking, unstuffy, determined

to make a contribution but without seeking plaudits for the work. In fact, it was

during my time discussing the many

media requests that were put to her that

she made it clear she never wanted a PR

campaign to promote her to the wider

world. Instead, she was firmly of the view

that people would meet her, see her work

and then make up their own mind. It was

an approach that seemed to work very

well, although I often wished I was able to

show more people her real personality

Much like the King, the Queen Consort

is very accessible and willing to talk

things through. From time to time she

would call for a bit of a chat to discuss the

media and to have a general catch-up

That said, there was one time of the day

when she would be simply impossible to

reach and that was at 7pm - the moment

when The Archers was on was considered

than this approach would allow.

Nevertheless, in this next phase it will be the Queen Consort's loyal service, her love for her husband and an innate understanding of what it means to serve the institution that will carry

her on. It could perhaps even see her emerge with the respect and affection from the nation that, after so many years, she thoroughly deserves.

Julian Payne was communications secretary to the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall from 2016 to 2021

been clamped in irons and locked in the Tower dungeon long ago. The first time I tempted Tower fate was at Clarence House when I hobbled in on crutches. Camilla kindly inquired how I'd injured myself. A jogging injury felt too mundane a reply. "I fell off my toyboy," I joked. The intake of breath from the surrounding guests was bordering on the asthmatic but the totally unpretentious Camilla just threw back her head and laughed.

A few months later, I bumped into her again at Westminster Abbey at a bushfire memorial service, which I'd helped organise. Camilla greeted me affectionately before we moved on to more general chat, during which it transpired that she'd just returned from Brazil. "Gosh," I replied, "that's a long way to go for a wax." Medusa-like, the livid gaze of a nearby church official nearly turned me to stone. Was this any way to speak to the wife of our future

King? When I went on to say that my own nether regions could be awarded National Park status, if this dignitary's eyes could shoot out lethal beams like a comic book superhero, I would have been annihilated there and then. But once more, the then Duchess of Cornwall chose to see the funny side.

When the royal couple were about to embark on their first trip together to Australia, Camilla asked me to drop by for a cuppa to discuss the itinerary. Now, I'd attended many soirées and Christmas cocktail parties in the downstairs drawing rooms of Clarence House, but wondered what to expect in the royal couple's private quarters.

Would I be rattling around in a draughty drawing room with a host of ghosts in every nook and cranny? I've stayed in the odd stately pile - and have learnt that the "blue room" is so called because that's the colour your lips will be as you freeze to death. With some

trepidation I mounted the stairs only to find myself in the most cosy sitting room crammed with books, knitting, newspapers and paintings waiting to be hung – a room comfortable with its lot in life. As Charles and Camilla so obviously are too. At functions when Charles is delivering a speech, I always note how he glances over to his wife for an approving smile. And it's obvious from her reciprocal beam that Camilla has found her knight in shining Armani. This is a couple clearly besotted with each other and it's a love story that has passed the test of time.

At an age when most people are keen to get on with some gardening, the artist formerly known as prince is rolling up his sleeves to take on Britain's most demanding gig. And when the burden of office becomes too onerous, it's good to know that his Queen Consort is on hand to give King Charles what nobody else can - a right royal laugh

# Dylan Jones

Snappy and glorious ...our King is cooler than James Bond

n September 2018, on a purposebuilt stage in the Turbine Hall in London's Tate Modern, the Prince of Wales (as was) received a lifetime achievement award at the GO Men of the Year awards. He opened by saying: "First of all, I really wanted to apologise for being wrongly dressed. When they first announced I was winning the Men of the Year award, I felt sure it must have been some kind of ill-deserved fashion award. In fashion terms I'm like a stopped clock. I'm fashionable once every 25 years."

Never let it be said that Prince Charles can't judge a room. In front of 600 of the most famous, most connected, and  $frankly-the\ most\ entitled\ people\ in\ the$ world, Charles played the cards of selfdeprecation so deftly that for the next ten minutes he had the audience in the palm of his hand.

Nor was it entirely true. For a man so birthed in tradition, it might not seem so strange that King Charles loves his clothes so much. In all the years I've known him, he's always cared about his suits, always been obsessive about protocol and dress codes, and always made sure he dressed appropriately, whether he was attending a birthday party or a barbecue. With a twist, of course. Because King Charles has always been a bit Beau Brummell on the quiet. He has been known to change outfits five times a day, and on occasion has employed more than one valet to keep them in tiptop condition. He loves a ticket pocket and a tab collar on his suit jackets that can be fastened – so it is

said – in the event of a hurricane. When I was at GQ, we went out of our way to celebrate Charles as a style icon because we knew he was almost a talismanic figure in the fashion industry. He had the ability to fly the flag for British tailoring and craftsmanship while also looking good in the process. He was always on our annual best-dressed list as he was a genuine example of British style; not just a style that played well at home, but importantly a style that played well internationally.

Nobody wore a short-sleeved safari jacket with quite as much panache, not even Roger Moore. Nobody looked quite so cool in a polo outfit (not even his sons). And nobody looked quite so slick on foreign assignments; if you look at any photograph of Charles in the Caribbean, he looks like nothing less

than a Ralph Lauren model. There is even a photograph of him skiing where he is wearing a belted black suit, a bright yellow polo neck jumper and a multicoloured twilly (a small scarf) where he looks even cooler than George Lazenby in On Her Majesty's Secret Service. There, I've said it, King Charles looks cooler than James Bond. Another photograph has him sporting a cowboy hat, a singlebreasted western suit, a checked shirt and a dandy bootlace tie, looking a little like a cross between Tom Ford and Hank Williams. And you can't say that about many men.

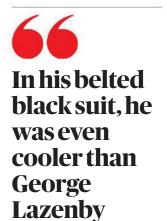
Essentially, the King takes his togs seriously, which is how he treats everything in his life. However, our King has always had something of a maverick streak in him, as we know from his espousal of environmental projects, and his sometimes almost terrifying diatribes about unnecessarily flamboyant postmodern architecture. When he initiated the Campaign for Wool in 2010 to educate consumers about the benefits of  $wool \, and \, help \, to \, support \, and \, expand$ the wool industry, he was always looking for new ways to attract younger consumers, which meant that he was always supportive of young, equally maverick designers.

His ability to celebrate the traditional with the anarchic was one of the reasons I asked him ten years ago to help launch London Collections Men, Britain's first men's fashion week. Only Charles could have convened all the tribal Savile Row tailors, only Charles could have intrigued the young, just-out-of-college designers, and only Charles had the pulling power to drag Tom Ford, Vivienne Westwood, Tommy Hilfiger and Paul Smith down to St James in the middle of the afternoon. I am convinced it was Charles's patronage that made the event so successful.

His attention to detail is rivalled only by his sense of humour. On the night we were giving him his award at Tate Modern, we spent 40 minutes together backstage in the hastily repurposed green room. Just before we were due to walk into the auditorium, he turned to me and said, sotto voce: "My suit. Do you think it's, well, do you think it's going to work? There are a lot of very well-dressed people out there."

"Oh, I think you're going to be OK, your royal highness," I said, risking a smile. "I think you're going to be just







**Prince Charles at** 

Klosters, Switzerland, in

1980, on the polo grounds

at Windsor in 1992, and in

Calgary, Canada, in 1977















Great and good told: Ditch your car, come by coach

With hundreds of world leaders at Westminster Abbey and millions of mourners, the first state funeral in 57 years is a giant logistical and diplomatic challenge

#### **Hugo Daniel and Dipesh Gadher**

It is not the usual way that kings, queens, presidents and prime ministers travel around town.

But many of them have been ordered to ditch their cars and assemble at the Royal Hospital Chelsea – the retirement home of 300 army veterans famous for their long scarlet coats – before being driven in coaches to tomorrow's funeral.

Overall, about 2,000 people will attend the service at Westminster Abbey, including heads of state, VIPs and members of other royal families.

Government officials are briefing that the funeral, which has been meticulously planned for decades, will be the "largest international event" the UK has held in decades, possibly ever. Up to two million mourners are expected in London, double the number thought to have gathered for Diana, Princess of Wales's funeral.

The funeral will be attended by more than 500 foreign dignitaries, including President Biden of America and his wife, Jill. The US president has been given a special dispensation to travel in his armoured Cadillac, known as the Beast.

The guest list includes Olena Zelenska, wife of President Zelensky of Ukraine, President Macron of France, Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako of Japan, and King Felipe and Queen Letizia of Spain. The *Killing Eve* actress Sandra Oh will attend the funeral as part of a Canadian delegation led by Justin Trudeau, the prime minister, who described the Queen as "one of my favourite people in the world" last week.

The Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia confirmed yesterday that Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman was travelling to London but said no further details of his visit had been confirmed.

His planned visit has been condemned by Hatice Cengiz, fiancée of the murdered journalist Jamal Khashoggi. She told The Guardian: "The crown prince should not be allowed to be part of this mourning and not be allowed to stain her memory and use this time mourning to seek legitimacy and normalisation."

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An all-female team, including a former Scottish rugby international, is in charge of policing what will be the biggest security operation Britain has ever witnessed.

Jane Connors, a deputy assistant commissioner, and Commander Karen Findlay will oversee the deployment of up to 15,000 officers in central London to protect the royal family, visiting world lead-

ers and unprecedented crowds. They will be supported by about 1,500 troops, while the SAS will be on standby.

Tens of millions more will watch the spectacle on television across Britain – with the record of 32.1 million who watched Princess Diana's funeral on September 6, 1997, likely to be broken. Globally the television audience has been estimated at 4.1 billion, more than half of the people on the planet.

After the funeral, the coffin will be driven to Windsor via A-roads to allow tens of thousands of wellwishers to line the route. The cortege will go through 25 miles of London streets, and towns and villages in Surrey and Berkshire on its journey. A palace spokesman said: "The route is planned with the public in mind."

At 3pm, it will travel down Windsor's famous Long Walk to the castle where the Queen will be laid to rest in St George's Chapel next to the Duke of Edinburgh, her husband of 73 years.

Connors, the "gold commander" of the operation, was in charge of the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral last year and has led the Met's response to Extinction Rebellion protests in the capital.

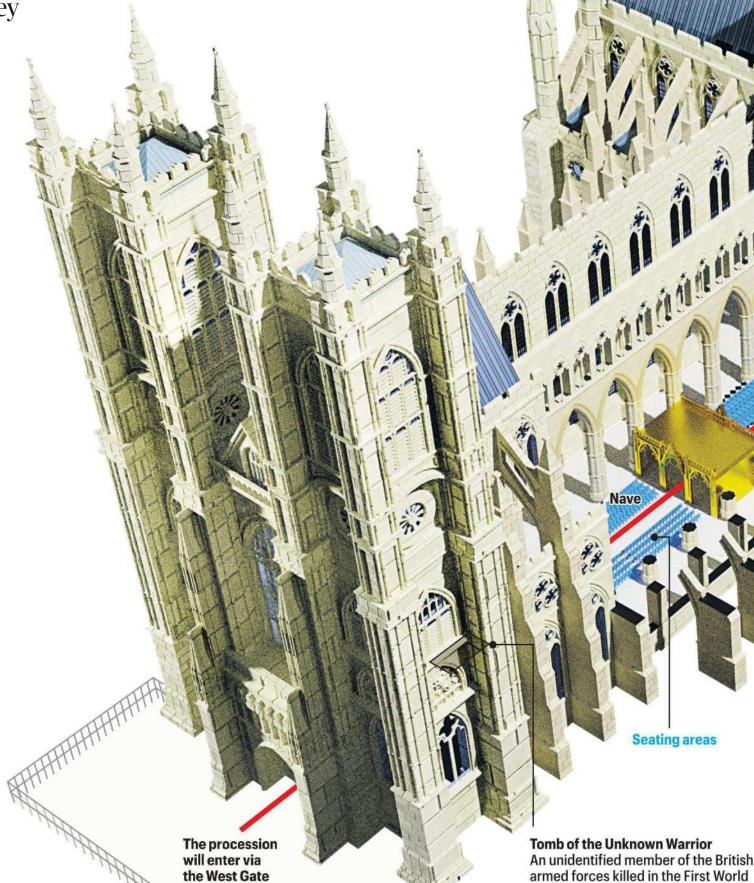
Her deputy, Findlay, who captained – and later coached – Scotland's women's rugby union team, helped to protect the 2012 Olympics, including the opening and closing ceremonies attended by senior royals and more than 140 heads of state

Nick Aldworth, a former national counterterrorism coordinator, said the most acute terrorist threat comes from a lone actor with a knife. "You can stop people driving cars into crowds but you can't mitigate against someone with a blunt or bladed weapon," he said.

The Palace has also invited 183 key workers and volunteers recognised in the last Queen's Birthday Honours list, including Ella Marks, 88, who records talking books for the blind. In 1937, she attended George VI's Coronation on her father's shoulders on The Mall.

Royal National Lifeboat Institution volunteers Lynn Spillett, 62, from Littlehampton in West Sussex, and Guy Addington, 45, from Margate, Kent who is credited with saving 13 people from drowning since 1994, are also going.

Spillett, who helped to raise £700,000 in seven years for the charity, said: "To be invited to the funeral and to be able to pass on my condolences myself and be part of the goodbye to her is just an amazing thing – just unbelievable."



# So many world leaders create the seating plan from hell



The Princess of Wales meeting governors-general of the Commonwealth nations at Buckingham Palace yesterday



Seldom has so dense a concentration of dignitaries converged in one place as the throng that came to pay their last respects to Nelson Mandela at a stadium in Johannesburg in December 2013.

In what was thought to be the biggest gathering of world leaders since Winston Churchill's funeral in 1965, many got stuck in a chaotic bottleneck waiting for lifts that would carry them up to a comfortable lounge in the upper reaches of the stadium.

As a correspondent for this newspaper, I saw security details of rival African potentates scuffling with each other as they tried to rescue their employers from the melee. At one point, Cherie Blair was squashed into the back of a lift as tightly packed as a bus in Soweto. Gordon Brown, about to be left behind, was shoved in by panicking minders. "It's madness," complained an Indian diplomat after a group

of sharp-elbowed European Union officials pushed him out of the way to seize a lift for themselves. "They don't seem to have absorbed much of the spirit of Mandela."

Is this protocolic meltdown what our national masters of ceremony had in mind when they announced a plan requiring heads of state attending the Queen's funeral tomorrow to abandon their motorcades for a collective coach ride to Westminster Abbey? It is understood to have been met with a firm "non" from the French – and "no way" from America.

With the exception of François Hollande, the former socialist leader who used to visit his mistress on the back of a three-wheeled scooter, France's monarchlike leaders have always got about town in the back of a sleek and aerodynamic Citroen DS, also known as "La Déesse", or Goddess. An early model was said to have saved the life of General Charles de Gaulle who emerged unscathed from an ambush in 1962.

Spare a thought for the Élysée official tasked with telling President Macron that in London he would have to get on *le bus*. "He would have thought 'De Gaulle never got

on a bus, and I won't either'," said Alexandra Hall Hall, a former British ambassador to Georgia who is surprised by Britain's bus arrangement. "Can you imagine the King of Thailand nestling next to President Erdogan [of Turkey] on a bus? I find it incredible that they've been planning this thing for years and years, and yet we haven't figured out a way to get heads of state in private cars to Westminster Abbey."

at 10.52am

Whether or not Britain is treated to the spectacle of the Emperor and Empress of Japan's Chrysanthemum Throne descending from a bus remains uncertain: news of an exemption for President

Biden is allowed to pull up in the Beast

Biden, who will be allowed to pull up at the entrance to the abbey in the Beast, his indestructible limousine, prompted a flurry of lobbying by foreign ambassadors urging the government not to subject their rulers to the indignity of what the funeral planners call "collective arrangements".

It was then reported that the Biden exception would apply to heads of G7 countries. This left countless other dignitaries feeling left out. "It's a bit like a family wedding," Hall Hall said. "For the sake of the hosts. everyone will be on their best behaviour, but behind the scenes they'll be saying 'why have we been stuck in this bus? Why have we been put in row 34?' It's bad enough when you have to deal with a difficult uncle or a drunk exwife, but you've got this in spades with this funeral, it's a diplomatic minefield."

Consider the difficulties involved in trying to craft a seating plan for some 100 presidents, royals and potentates – and hundreds of other assorted dignitaries – that avoids the risk of anyone feeling slighted for being placed behind a pillar and ensures that none get into a fight: Jeremy Bernard, who

served as Barack Obama's social secretary, told me brawling dinner guests was one of his greatest nightmares.

"The seating is always a challenge," he said. To avoid unpleasant surprises, he would inform guests in advance of the seating plan. "You have to make sure none feel more welcome than others." At a G7 meeting at Camp David, the presidential retreat, he tried to ensure every leader's cabin was of the same standard: "It mustn't seem there's any

favouritism."

He can sympathise with
the King playing host on the
eve of the funeral to a
multitude of dignitaries at
Buckingham Palace. "The
British are good at it, but
something like this is
unprecedented," he said.

something like this is unprecedented," he said. "The more people you have, the more chance you have of someone feeling slighted – even if they aren't."

At every event in the White House he was worried "someone was there who shouldn't be": at Mandela's send-off this was the sign language interpreter whose "signing" turned out to be gibberish. Johannesburg offered other reminders of

from the script. Readers may recall the selfie that Helle Thorning-Schmidt, the Danish prime minister, took with Obama and David Cameron; and Obama's brief handshake with Raúl Castro, the former Cuban dictator, which prompted furious speculation about better relations with Havana.

War was buried here in 1920

The King knows better than most the perils of a funeral handshake - or the lack of one. His handshake with Robert Mugabe, the former Zimbabwean president, at Pope John Paul II's funeral in 2005 provoked a furore. At a reception on the eve of the wedding of Crown Prince (now King) Felipe of Spain in Madrid in 2004, Charles kissed the bride but failed to notice the diminutive figure standing next to her with a hand outstretched to shake his. It was the bride's

The Palace has yet to publish a list of funeral attendees, but even though Russia, Belarus and Myanmar have been excluded, some at the palace today will be unelected potentates, others flamboyant eccentrics: according to reports, King Maha Vajiralongkorn of Thailand spends much of his time in a hotel in the Bavarian









# Scandals won't keep Europe's raucous royals out of the abbey

Peter Conradi Europe Editor

Given the string of financial and personal scandals that have continued to hang over Juan Carlos since his abdication in 2014, it is not surprising that the 84-yearold former king of Spain, spends most of his time these days in self-imposed exile in Abu Dhabi. Yet he and his estranged consort Sofía, 83, have still been invited to the Queen's funeral.

It remains to be seen what kind of reception the couple will receive when they take their place in Westminster Abbey. Their invitation caused outrage in Spain, while the present monarch, Felipe VI, Juan Carlos's son, who is also attending, will avoid at all costs being seen with his disgraced father.

Such is the prestige of the House of Windsor that we tend to think of it as unique. In fact, Europe has five other reigning kings, a queen regnant, two reigning princes and a grand duke, many of them distant cousins of our royal family through Queen Victoria.

Although largely as beloved among their own subjects as was our own Queen, their families - and in some cases, the monarchs themselves - have also faced periodic bouts of turbulence.

Few have faced embarrassment on the scale of Juan Carlos, whose alleged affairs included trysts in the 1980s with a woman in the back of a van parked behind the Zarzuela Palace, his royal residence in Madrid, according to a new television documentary.

Felipe, 54, by contrast, has managed to avoid the kind of scandal that has hit not only his father, but also the Infanta Cristina, 57, the younger of his two sisters. Her husband Iñaki Urdangarin, 54, a former professional handball player turned businessman, was jailed in 2018 for embezzlement, and she, too, was put on trial. Although acquitted, she was stripped of her title of Duchess of Palma de Mallorca.

The Spanish public also

seemed largely unfazed by Felipe's marriage in 2004 to Letizia Ortiz, a divorced television journalist, rather than to a fellow royal.

The marriage of the Dutch

King, Willem-Alexander, 55, to his Argentinian-born Queen, Máxima, 51, in 2002 when he was still heir to the throne, was almost derailed by revelations that her father, Jorge Zorreguieta, had served in the country's ruling junta until shortly before the outbreak of the Falklands War. Told by the Dutch government that his presence at the wedding would be "impossible", Zorreguieta and his wife watched proceedings on TV from a suite at the Ritz in London.

The Swedish monarch, Carl XVI Gustaf, 76, has faced questions in the past over his colourful private life - which, during his younger years, allegedly involved sending bodyguards onto the streets of Stockholm to procure girls for parties and attending underground strip clubs. He has denied some of the more damaging claims but has also spoken of wanting to "turn a page and move on now".

Royal fans will also be keeping watch on Charlene, Princess of Monaco, 44, the former South African Olympic swimmer whose



kingis saidto have visited strip clubs

Juan Carlos of Spain and Sofia



marriage to Prince Albert has been shrouded with controversy since she became his (by some accounts, reluctant) bride in 2011. Fears that all was not well with their marriage were again fuelled last year by her long absence from the principality for

medical treatment. By contrast, Denmark's Queen Margrethe II, who, after 50 years, is now Europe's longest-serving monarch, has provided little fodder for the tabloids. Nor have her heir, Frederik, and his wife, Mary, an Australianborn former marketing consultant whom he met in a pub in Sydney during the 2000 Olympics. They will accompany the widowed queen to the funeral.

Their families, at least, still formally lead their countries; not so their long-exiled eastern European counterparts, some of whom will also be at the funeral. Their doyen is Tsar Simeon II, 85, of Bulgaria, who spent three years on the throne between the ages of six and nine, before the monarchy was abolished in 1946 in a referendum "supervised" by the Soviet army.

Though forced into exile, he returned in 1996 after the fall of communism and went into Bulgarian politics under the name Simeon Borisov von Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and –in a royal first – served as prime minster for four years from 2001 after forming his own political party. The guests will also include

royals from further afield, such as Japan's Emperor Naruhito, who will be accompanied by his empress, Masako. Naruhito has a bond with the Queen, who invited him to tea at Buckingham Palace when he was studying in Britain in the 1980s.

Spare a thought, though, for the person charged with filling out the invitation for the 63-year-old King of Malaysia. His full name reads Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah ibni Almarhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah. @Peter\_Conradi

Alps accompanied by a harem of up to 20 female consorts. He is not a figure used to being told what to do. Nor is Mohammed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia, who was implicated by the United States in the murder of the journalist Jamal Khashoggi The Saudi embassy confirmed that the prince would be in the UK for the weekend and was expected to pay his respects to the royal family, although it remains unclear whether he will attend the funeral.

Will assorted pariahs be ushered to some pew of shame? Will they behave? "The organisers are thinking it's obviously a big event, they'll all want to come, they'll do what we want them to do," Hall Hall said. "What they haven't asked is if we had to attend the Emperor of Japan's funeral would we do all the things we're asking them to do.'

When Hall Hall published her thoughts on the bus controversy on Twitter last week she provoked an angry response: "They were saying why shouldn't these foreign heads of state get the bus? My question to them is would the Queen take a bus?" Dream on. She was the Queen.

# Leading the way on her final journey, four horses given to the Queen by the Mounties

#### **Dipesh Gadher** and Hugo Daniel

As the world's most famous horse lover, it was only to be expected that the animals will play a prominent role in the Queen's funeral proceedings.

Yet the four horses chosen to lead tomorrow's coffin procession from Westminster Abbey are a living embodiment of the special bond between the late monarch and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), or Mounties, that stretches back decades.

George, Elizabeth, Darby and Sir John are the latest in a long line of horses given by Canada to the Queen and ridden by senior royals, including King Charles and the Princess Royal, during the annual ceremony of Trooping the Colour.

"The relationship with Her Majesty is quite personal," said Sergeant Major Scott Williamson, riding master of the RCMP, who will be on Darby tomorrow. "There is a lot of pressure ... but we are

on a no-fail mission."

**Baroness** 

Scotland of Asthal

ecretary-general

The Queen, who visited Canada 22 times in her reign, was honorary commissioner

of the Mounties. She first encountered the force's elite ceremonial division, known as the Musical Ride, when it travelled to Britain in 1953 to perform at her Coronation.

In 1969, the RCMP presented her with Burmese, a seven-year-old black mare who went on to become the Queen's favourite horse.

She rode her at Trooping the Colour for 18 years, including in 1981 when Marcus Sarjeant, then 17, shot six blank rounds at the Queen as she was travelling down The Mall to the parade that marks her official birthday.

Although Burmese was briefly startled, the horse won praise for remaining calm due to her RCMP training, in which she had been exposed to gunfire.

Burmese, who died in 1990, was the first of eight horses given to the Queen by the Mounties. George was

Charles rides George at this year's Trooping the Colour



given to her in 2009. Now 22, he has been ridden each year at Trooping the Colour by

Charles

Elizabeth, now 17, named in honour of the Queen Mother, was a gift to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in

Williamson described her

this weekend as a "well tempered mare", who now serves in the Metropolitan Police's mounted branch. Sir John, 14, was a 90th

birthday present for the Queen and is ridden at Trooping the Colour by Princess Anne, a former Olympic equestrian.

Darby, a 16-year-old Hanoverian gelding, was one of two horses received by the late monarch in 2019. Williamson is one of four

RCMP officers who will ride at the front of tomorrow's funeral procession after the Westminster Abbey service.

It will travel up Whitehall and along The Mall, passing Buckingham Palace before ending at Wellington Arch. Here, the Queen's coffin will be transferred from the state gun carriage to a hearse for her final journey to Windsor.

"It will be a very special, yet sombre event," said Williamson. "It's incredibly humbling and an honour for us to be here representing the organisation and every Canadian that we know would love to be here for this historic moment."

Captain Catherine Russell, 44, the ceremonial co-ordinator of the whole military equine fleet, said that 199 military horses would be involved tomorrow –102 horses in the central London procession from Westminster Hall to Wellington Arch and another 97 in the procession to St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle.

Russell said the Queen was "very read in, very aware [of the funeral plan]. We call it Operation London Bridge, but it covers the ten days leading up to her final rest at St George's Chapel. The horses are an unequivocally important part of that. We want to make her proud."

# QUEEN AS TOUCHSTONE A MEMORIAL POEM BY FRIEDA HUGHES

Connected as we were, each one of us a thread That wove each gown she'd wear in every portrait And in every photograph - we were always there, As at home as she was; Queen as Touchstone.

In every look or glance, By every smile and handshake or exchange, We burned more brightly, Our moments gilt in perpetuity, The change in each of us like silent breath As we made her ours, and she Lived out her promise – made us hers; Queen as Touchstone.

Through war and landslide, flood and fire, Marriage, births and deaths, And Christmas. If she addressed a screen on our behalf, it was as if She'd stepped into the room, her words for each of us alone;

Her death belongs to us, we own it now. And in the light She left of all those years in which Her face was family, we share her loss With those who are her own. Their sorrow too, is ours by legacy; Oueen as Touchstone.

Frieda Hughes is a poet and painter

Queen as Touchstone.



There were long queues at the **British consulate** to leave flowers



# Hong Kong's grief for the 'boss lady' turns into a quiet kind of protest

In a place where gatherings of more than four are banned, the tributes to the Queen make it clear what has been lost

#### **OLIVER** SHAH



Associate Editor, Hong Kong

snowdrift of flowers, cards, framed photographs, Union Jacks, and the occasional Paddington Bear toy covers the pavement outside the British consulate in Hong Kong. Queues stretched down the road every day last week as Hongkongers ignored record September heat to pay tribute to the woman they called si tau po - "boss lady". Inside, consulate staff managed 14 books of condolence simultaneously as they tried to meet demand. By 11pm on Friday, when the last line dispersed, 11,400 people had signed. The consulate will reopen for half a day tomorrow to give a final chance to bid farewell to the Queen, the head of state for 45 years until the handover to China in 1997.

Among those who visited were Eric Chan Kwok-ki, the chief secretary, an Carrie Lam, the territory's deeply unpopular former chief executive. But for most the occasion was more than a remembrance. The grief was a quiet form of protest in a place where gatherings of more than four people are banned under Covid rules, and a sweeping national security law has stifled free speech, leading to the jailing of opposition politicians and the closure of pro-democracy news organisations.

A typical card said that, under British rule, Hong Kong had been known as "the pearl of the east". It added that since 2019 - the year of protests and rioting that triggered the government crackdown - the city had become "darker and darker". "Hongkongers are living in a state of anxiety," it said. "We are hav

Renée, a thirtysomething restaurant manager who laid flowers outside the

Kong before the handover had been "amazing – like a magical moment".

She said: "At that time it was more international, more universal. But now it's just one direction. It's not like in the old days, when you could develop under every possibility. They [the authorities] give you a boundary, and you can develop yourself inside the boundary. You may have to admit that you will have new DNA, whether you want it or not. You have to mind your mouth, especially in public areas. After the national [security] law, this is the first time that people can gather like this.

There was no significant police presence, but there were flickerings of irritation from China and the Hong Kong government as the week wore on. Karying Law, a Cantonese opera star, took down an Instagram post in which he had said that Hong Kong was a "blessed land" during the Queen's reign. He apologised in Mandarin on Weibo, the Chinese social media site. A Chinese TV clip in which a woman interviewed outside the consulate said that tributes to the Queen represented "the sentiment of the people" was taken down. Pro-China media accused Hongkongers of a "colonial mentality".

Regina Ip, a pro-Beijing politician who is convenor of Hong Kong's executive council, said "nostalgia" about British rule was misplaced and that Hong Kong was in fact "more free" under China. 'Don't forget, the British only tried to push democracy when they knew they

were leaving," Ip told *The Sunday Times.* "These young people – the British era has nothing to do with them. They never worked or lived in the British era. We've been returned to the motherland for 25 years now. So it's a fantasy."

In the self-conscious Hong Kong of 2022, politics touches almost everything. While crowds gathered at the consulate, less than two miles away the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club – one of the only institutions to have kept that prefix – declined to

consulate on Thursday, said that Hong lower its flag in honour of the Queen. Although the commodore rang the bell in its main bar - still closed for Covid reasons – and signed a letter of condolence to the King, the general committee is said to have decided that lowering the standard would be too political a gesture. The decision angered many of the expatheavy club's members.

Hong Kong society is divided over China's responses to the turmoil of 2019. The national security law, which criminalises acts of secession, subversion, terrorism and collusion with foreign forces, with a maximum penalty of life imprisonment, is used alongside a revived colonial-era sedition law. The latter carries the threat of up to two years in jail for those deemed to have undermined the government. More than 200 people have been arrested for allegedly endangering national security since June 2020.

They include Jimmy Lai, the media tycoon whose Chinese-language *Apple* Daily newspaper closed last year, and 47 opposition politicians. Lai has pleaded not guilty. He faces trial without a jury after the justice secretary cited the "involvement of foreign factors" and "protection of the personal safety of jurors and their family members". The opposition politicians face trial before a panel of three judges rather than a jury

Some cases hover between the comical and the sinister. Five speech therapists were sentenced to 19 months in prison each last week under the sedition law. They had produced a series of children's books depicting the struggles of a village of sheep trying to fend off intruding wolves after their shepherd's departure. A district judge said the speech therapists were "brainwashing" children with allegorical stories implying that Chinese mainlanders had ruined Hongkongers' "happy life" since 1997. One of the defendants compared her prosecution to the trials of Socrates and Galileo.

The national security law, drafted in Beijing, has been criticised around the world. "The criminal charges are fantastically vaguely defined," said a senior legal source who works in the UK and Hong Kong. "In an English court, the accused would have the benefit of any uncertainty in its meaning. I don't think that

necessarily applies in Hong Kong."

The law's defenders argue that only a tiny number of people have been prosecuted in a population of 7.3 million. Critics point out that a few headline cases have led to self-censorship. The American academic Perry Link once described the Chinese government's censorial effect as "the anaconda in the chandelier". Lord Patten of Barnes, the last governor of Hong Kong, said: "The sense is that you don't quite know what it is, but if you put a foot out of line, this f\*\*\*ing great snake will drop on your head."

One journalist who recently left the city said that "the extent to which civil society has been decimated is very hard to exaggerate". Another said: "It's like a light switch has been flicked and it's gone from light to dark in one fell swoop."

However, there is support for the government crackdown among middle-class Hongkongers, expats and business leaders. Many were aghast at the city's descent into chaos in 2019 and credit the national security law with restoring stability. "When it came in, all of us breathed a sigh of relief," said a wealthy Hong Konger. "It's not a fundamental human right to set the MTR on fire," said one expat drily, referring to the way rioters smashed up the subway system.

Many of the same demographic have contempt for Lai and Apple Daily, which mixed a pro-democracy editorial line with stories about sex and drugs. "The way he's seen as a hero in the West is a joke," said one young property tycoon. "He's been stirring up trouble forever," said another business leader. "In the end he decided to help the Americans. May he rot in jail for a thousand years."

Covid rules have a bigger impact on most people's lives. Overseas visitors have to undergo three days' hotel quarantine, plus four days' exclusion from bars and restaurants. They must take daily rapid-flow tests and three PCRs. That is better than the 21-day hotel quarantine that was still being enforced at the start of the year, but it continues to kill business travel and tourism.

Hong Kong has suffered an outflow of young people and expats for three years in a row. The population fell by 1.6 per cent, or 121,500, in the year to June. It is

difficult to disentangle the effects of the national security clampdown from Covid in assessing the driving factors.

John Lee, the former police chief who took over from Lam as chief executive in July, has been lobbied by business leaders and politicians to relax the Covid rules, particularly the quarantine rules. He is due to make his first policy address next month. Hong Kong is hosting an international finance summit in November, followed by the Rugby Sevens.

President Xi Jinping gave a speech on the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's handover in July in which he emphasised the importance to China of the "one country, two systems" model under which Hong Kong is supposed to be governed. That has led to speculation that Lee could be given room to diverge further from the mainland on Covid rules.

Lee has expressed frustration about the negative mood. In August, he urged the city's young to "tell a good story about one country, two systems to the world". The city is plastered with billboards promising a "new era" of stability, prosperity and opportunity.

Hong Kong's citizens still enjoy freedoms denied to their neighbours across the border, including a currency pegged to the US dollar and unfettered access to overseas media. Hong Kong's Covid app is not known to feature tracking software of the kind used in China.

But the scenes outside the British consulate suggest that many Hongkongers will continue to reject what they see as Beijing's tightening grip. Henry Chan, a 54-year-old doctor, said he cried as a child when he heard that Hong Kong was going to be handed back to China. "Under the British, it was such a lovely society," he said. "Now, everything you can think of is going backwards."

Chan said Beijing and the Hong Kong government were "very naive" to think the city would accept the changes without a further exodus. "I believe human beings can only move forwards, not backwards," he said. "Everyone now uses 5G mobile phones. If I take your phone and give you a 2G or analogue phone, do you think anyone would accept that? No. That's what makes human beings different from other animals."



# Sarfraz Manzoor

# Now is the time to acknowledge our empire's sins

was heading to the theatre when the news came that the Queen's health was prompting serious concern. The play I was due to watch featured dramatised testimonies from older British Asians who had lived through partition 75 years ago. I stood at the entrance to the theatre unsure whether to go inside or go home and turn on the news. I chose to watch the play, and it was only when I was on the bus going home that the news came that the Queen had died. The name of the play I had watched on the day the Queen died was Silence.

To die at 96 is neither a tragedy nor a shock, but the news left me feeling strangely unmoored. The Queen had been part of all our lives for so long that to imagine Britain without her felt unsettling. I am not by any means a monarchist, and I find the suggestion that anyone should enjoy a life of unimaginable privilege simply due to an accident of birth absurd. But I was prepared to overlook these objections for the Queen, because she was so reassuringly inoffensive and because she did what was expected of her for so well and for so long. I respected her as a

person even as I objected to the monarchy on principle.

The Queen's death signalled the start of blanket media coverage, and a narrative quickly set in that the entire country was convulsed in mourning. It did not take long, however, for this official narrative to start unravelling. I tweeted something fairly innocuous expressing sadness about the Queen's death, but this was met by a barrage of negative responses claiming that by being sad about the Queen's death, I was condoning colonialism and endorsing the evils of the British Empire. It's a view that has been propagated by mainstream



outlets in America. The implication was that any persons of colour who were anything other than jubilant about the Queen being dead were "coconuts" brown on the outside but white on the inside – with colonised imaginations. My first instinct was to defend the Queen and by extension myself - and then I remembered the play I had seen on the day she died.

Silence is an adaptation of Kavita Puri's book Partition Voices, and as I sat in the Donmar in London I watched as actors breathed life into the book's true life stories. The accounts were horrifying - trains dripping with the blood of butchered bodies, women abducted, raped and mutilated, and communities who had lived together peacefully for generations turning on each other. This mayhem was manmade, and it was made in Britain. Lord Mountbatten, who was viceroy of India during partition, was the Queen's second cousin once removed, and it is impossible to divorce the monarchy from the tragedy of partition, which is why the monarchy is still seen in India as a symbol of two centuries of colonial rule.

I had tended to excuse the Queen of all this. She was not individually

responsible or involved in any of the crimes committed by the Raj, I told myself. But nor did she ever apologise for them. She stopped short of doing so in 1997 when she visited the site of the Amritsar massacre, one of the worst atrocities of colonial rule, where a British general had ordered thousands of peaceful India protesters to be shot. Instead she said only that "history cannot be rewritten, however much we might wish otherwise". The very qualities so many admired the Queen for – her blankness and ability to speak without saying much at all – could have a darker and more painful side.

The longer the Queen had remained in her role, the more I had grown to admire her, but that very longevity can be blinding, and it is also true that some of the most obvious questions remain unasked. The Queen rarely came up in conversation when I was growing up in Luton, but when she did it was usually my father reminding us how most of the jewels that adorned her crown were robbed from our ancestral homeland. He had a point. This does not make me a committed republican. The monarchy may be complicit in past crimes, but it can also be a force for progress if the



The Queen visiting Islamabad during

next generation is willing to acknowledge the sins of the past. While the Queen was alive, we did not need to ask awkward questions about what role the monarchy serves in modern Britain. Perhaps that time has come.

So what am I mourning when I mourn the Queen? My mother is 89. She has dementia and lives with my older brother and his wife. I am one of her four children, none of whom, to put it delicately, is very close. I realise that it is entirely possible that her four children will go their separate ways. She is the glue that holds us together. The Queen played the same role for her country. Today the nation will pause for one minute of remembrance ahead of tomorrow's funeral. I will spend that minute of silence reflecting on her dignity, her dedication and her decades of service, but I will also hope that it brings an opportunity for change, for us to start talking honestly about the legacy and lingering scars of partition and empire. It is time to end the silence.

Sarfraz Manzoor is the author of They: What Muslims and Non-Muslims Get Wrong About Each Other, which is published in paperback this month

# Her children took her name. She changed succession laws. So was the Queen the ultimate feminist?

For all her studied inscrutability, as a female monarch Elizabeth II had a power beyond words

SARAH DITUM



hen the Queen inherited the throne, at least one person saw it as a watershed for equal rights. "If, as many earnestly pray, the ascension of Elizabeth II can help to remove the last shreds of prejudice against women aspiring to the highest places, then a new era for women will indeed be at hand."

The author was Margaret Thatcher, who was 26 at the time and had recently failed to become MP for Dartford in Kent. Newly married, Thatcher's hope that "we shall see more and more women combining marriage and a career" was clearly as much about her own prospects as those of the new Queen.

Twenty-seven years later, Thatcher became Britain's first female prime minister, rather proving her point: a woman holding power helps other women to advance by example.

advance by example.

So should we add another garland to Elizabeth's reputation: Queen of the United Kingdom, head of the Commonwealth . . . and feminist icon? Emma Barnett, the presenter of *Woman's Hour*, has argued so, and Olivia Colman, who played the Queen in *The Crown* on TV, has called her "the ultimate feminist".

But it's also true that neither Thatcher nor the Queen has ever enjoyed the approval of the feminist movement. Thatcher never seemed to do much to benefit other women once she'd made it to the top; and the Queen was the representative of an ancient system of inherited power that claimed to derive its ulti-

mate authority from God.

The Queen was born before some women were even granted the right to vote. Surely there might, then, have been some anxiety about the prospect of a girl acceding to the throne, particularly since she was placed in the line of succession only by the abdication of her uncle, Edward VIII, when she was ten.

Actually, commentary at the time was sanguine. It helped that queens have tended to be associated with eras of national greatness: the first Elizabethan, the Victorian. In 1936, the prospect of a woman becoming head of state felt less like a threat to the patriarchal order and more like a promise of resurgence.

The young princess was a symbol, and an appropriately feminine one. According to reports on her education, she was well-mannered and not overschooled – in receipt of "a training that has never threatened to dim the freshness or mar the simplicity of her girlhood," according to The Atlantic magazine in 1943.

Elizabeth devised a way of being Queen that was completely compatible with femininity. She effectively cast herself as mother to a nation (regardless of her demerits on the maternal front).

She defined her reign by the idea of duty. "I declare before you all, that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong," as she said in her speech on her 21st birthday.







This was an intelligent way to assuage any doubters: even if you were her subject, she was the one working for you. It was also a repudiation of her uncle's playboy version of princehood — an attitude that had thrown the whole country into constitutional crisis.

One of the problems for King Charles III (and, in due course, William) is that the Queen invented a model of monarchy that didn't merely accommodate her femaleness – it was, in large part, defined by it. As a young woman, she represented the fertile future of the country; as an old





woman, she acquired the patina of universal grandmotherhood.

Despite the demure exterior, the late Queen was capable of asserting herself, as when she insisted on serving in the Auxiliary Territorial Service in 1945. But the battles she chose to pick would rarely match up with later feminist principles.

match up with later feminist principles.

She chose Philip as her husband over the objections of stuffy palace insiders – but she also, controversially, fought to keep the word "obey" in her marriage vows. She gave her name to her children (leading Philip to complain "I'm nothing



but a bloody amoeba") – but here it seems that Elizabeth was bowing to her advisers rather than following her heart.

And since part of being a monarch is to studiously eschew any political opinions, you can sift her speeches in vain for anything like an endorsement of the women's movement. Instead, supporters of the Queen-as-feminist theory have to read between the lines.

When the Lionesses won the Euro 2022 tournament, the Queen praised the team as "an inspiration for girls and women today, and for future generations". Before that, she gave a speech to the Women's Institute in 2015 celebrating the fact that women, "through their own efforts ... now play a much greater part in all areas of public life".

It's also under Queen Elizabeth II that the rules of succession were finally changed in 2011 to mean that her female descendants would no longer be bumped out of line for the throne by their younger brothers. If it makes any sense to speak about equality within a hereditary monarchy, that's what we've got.

For some, of course, it makes no sense. Joan Smith, a republican and a feminist, is sceptical as to whether the Queen had any positive influence for feminism. "In terms of advancing equality, I think not at all, because she was there by an accident of birth," Smith said. "She might have an unconscious effect, but you have to balance that with the message about privilege."

If feminism is about undoing the arbitrary hierarchy of men over women, the Queen can't have been a feminist because the whole system that created her is anti-feminist by definition.

If you want to know whether Elizabeth I was a woman's woman, ask Mary Stuart. And Victoria was privately opposed to the women's suffrage movement, which she called a "mad, wicked folly". Still, if Victoria hadn't been monarch – and such a well-regarded one – the suffragists would probably have found it even harder to win their case. The way in which she ruled was an argument for women exercising power.

So even if at some future date Elizabeth's papers reveal that she was consumed with private hostility towards, say, the Equality Act 2010, the fact of having a female monarch will still be part of the context in which that act was passed.

The Queen's ideal of service also stands in contrast to another version of feminism: the girl-boss influencer style that dominates social media.

If you wanted to be unkind, you could call it the type of feminism represented by the Duchess of Sussex, who talks about the importance of "knowing your value" and having "vision". This kind of feminism-light isn't so much concerned about women's rights as it is about self-actualisation, the better to flog a podcast.

That's a long way from the collective ambitions of the 20th-century women's movement, and from the ideal the Queen set out to the WI: one of women excelling, so that through their own excellence they can further the let of the patien

they can further the lot of the nation.

With the line of succession running through Prince George, few of us will live under a Queen again. The institution feels more dated and more vulnerable as a result. But perhaps there's a lesson in the Queen's approach for aspiring feminists today. Sometimes the cause — a country, the monarchy, or the good of women as a whole — is bigger than you.

# She was hit by a dead bird (but didn't grouse)

**Hugo Daniel** 

Taking in the beauty of a misty Scottish moor amid the bustle of a Balmoral grouse shoot, the royal protection officer Dick Griffin turned to check on his charge, the Queen, only to get the shock of his life.

It was September 1995 and, at first glance, the then 69-year-old monarch had disappeared. As he searched anxiously through the thick fog, he finally caught sight of her – lying flat on the ground, a dead grouse beside her.

"Because it was so foggy we couldn't see [that the grouse had] hit her in the chest," Griffin said. "It just flattened her completely. So I had to get her up and discreetly brush all the feathers and plumes away from her. She was shaken up and badly bruised."

The equerry who had shot the bird was embarrassed. "But then [they] saw the funny side of it, because the Queen saw the funny side of it. She said: 'What an odd thing to happen'."

Griffin, 71, shared his memories of more than 30 years as a protection officer. His son, Gareth, 42, is a uniformed firearms officer and was on duty at the palace when the Queen's coffin arrived there on Tuesday.

Since her death, a news clip from the Platinum Jubilee has re-emerged in which Griffin revealed how, during a walk with the Queen on Balmoral, she posed for a photo with two American tourists who did not recognise her. He said he was glad the story had been a "comfort" to people.

Griffin, who had been due to have lunch with the Queen next month, will attend the smaller, more personal committal service at Windsor Castle's St George's Chapel tomorrow after the funeral at Westminster Abbey.

Griffin now gives talks about his career to raise money for the Kent, Surrey and Sussex air and talk.

When Griffin retired, in 2013, the Queen paid for him to have a retirement party in the state department at the palace. She joined the party, with Prince Philip and the Earl of Wessex. "That was the biggest present she could give me," he said.



Griffin stands guard in 2002

# **Matt Chorley**

# Bing Bunny's turned off. It's what she would have wanted

elcome to Good Mourning Britain. What is the right amount of mourning? Just enough mourning to stop you getting shamed for being disrespectful, but not too much mourning so you're told off for being daft. It's driven people potty. That's the only explanation for the results of a YouGov poll this week, which asked "have you watched or listened to any of the coverage of the death of the Queen?" Two per cent of people replied "don't know". Paralysed by fear at causing offence, they can't decide any more.

Who can blame them? The period of national mourning began with the vast majority of people feeling genuinely sad about the death of a much-loved nonagenarian, and then wondering when the telly and the papers were going to go back to normal.

In the meantime organisers, managers and bosses have struggled to get the balance right and have wibbled and wobbled and toppled over into mourning madness.

So what would cause more offence? Leaving people in their overpriced "log cabins" which are actually static caravans, or kicking them out on to the streets for 24 hours because that's what she would have wanted? Center Parcs thought it was doing the right thing by turfing its guests out, but after a backlash we got the tragic news that people would actually be able to stay there on Monday.

Having been to Center Parcs, I would have suggested that guests use the money they would have spent on archery and one ice cream sundae to have a week abroad all-inclusive in the summer. Today our thoughts are, of course, with the Center Parcs social media team at this difficult time.

Supermarkets have also found the week tough. Posters and signs which seemed a sombre, moving and fitting tribute to Her Majesty in the head of marketing's office suddenly looked less respectful hung over a pile of baked beans or nappies or fags.

Westminster Hall-worthy queues formed in Morrisons as customers struggled to scan their shopping because the barcode beepers had been turned down as "a sign of respect". Morrisons also "suspended" use of a Bing Bunny child's ride "as a mark of respect". Because what the Queen loved to do was

sit in a bright yellow car while being jiggled about by a big black rabbit in red dungarees. In Sainsbury's, the screens on the scan-your-own devices were changed from orange to black. So moving.

Sky News ran an online Q&A for people struggling with this hugely significant moment in our history. The constitutional expert Sir Anthony Seldon, biographer of no fewer than six prime ministers, was genuinely asked by someone called Tim Pearson: "Will my milkman still deliver my milk on Monday 19 (the day of the funeral)?" Seldon, sensing a furore if he suggested there was no point crying over undelivered milk, gamely replied: "I think it will depend on your provider and you would need to ask your milkman."

I'm old enough to remember when

Liz Truss stood outside No 10 and declared: "I will make sure that people can get doctors' appointments and the NHS services they need." It was less than a week before it was announced that GPs' surgeries would be shutting for the day, operations cancelled, and worse, junior doctors' exams – months in the revising – had been postponed.

The Last Night of the Proms was

cancelled because posh people, Union Jacks and singing *God Save The King* would obviously seem totally inappropriate.

The Royal Life Saving Society postponed its Open Water Festival until June, so just try not to drown before then. Extinction Rebellion called off their "Festival of Resistance", presumably unable to resist pressure to do so

Also postponed: Love Your Dog Groomer Day; Age UK Norfolk's pop-up clinic; Hampshire and Isle of Wight Social Prescribing Network Conference; West Lancashire Scouts AGM; Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership's Drive On event; Hackney Carnival; Money Guiders England Network's Pensions Starter Kit; a celebration weekend at the new Kirkby Leisure Centre; Farnham Gin and Fizz Festival; Macmillan Cancer Support's sponsored Mighty Hikes; Essex & Herts Air Ambulance charity bike run; Mega Skip Day in Richmond upon Thames. Because all of those causes can be put off to another day.

The launch of *Strictly* has been postponed. But *Bake Off* went ahead. Geri "Ginger Spice" Horner has

cancelled her 50th birthday party, but my 40th next weekend is going ahead. IT. IS. A. MINEFIELD.

Vue Cinemas are showing the funeral for free, but have banned all snacks.

Maybe the Queen hated rustling. I'm with her on that. (The one time we complained about noise in the cinema, it all got out of hand, the manager called security and banned us from returning. I had to sit through *Minions: The Rise of Gru* wearing a false moustache.)

Travel has been affected too.
Oxfordshire county council postponed an exhibition about improvements to the A423. Hammersmith & Fulham council in west London postponed Car Free Day, because as we all know the late Queen loved the smell of exhaust fumes. British Cycling initially told people that it "strongly recommends that anybody out riding their bike on the day of the state funeral does so outside of the timings of the funeral service" before everyone told them to, well, get on their bike.

Whoever it is feasting on the estate of David Bowie announced that they were postponing the "Bowie On Blockchain" sale, which at least gives me some more

time to work out what a blockchain is.

There were online tributes from

Funky Pigeon, Domino's Pizza, Playmobil, and even the retailer Ann Summers, which told the Queen to "Rest in peace" above promotions for lingerie, sex toys and "lubes" and a category respectfully named simply "crotchless".

Sir Mark Rowley, the new head of the Metropolitan Police, started work, and one of his first pronouncements was the idea that all 30,000 officers should reswear their oath to the King. Because that will deal with the misogyny and racism and corruption. It will also helpfully clog up the courts – each new oath must be delivered to a magistrate, who might otherwise be helping to tackle the backlog of the cases the police actually managed to solve between Whatsapping their private parts to one another.

One day we will look back and wonder what was the matter with us. How we became a country that decided that to show respect everything had to stop working. Including King Charles's fountain pen.

Listen to Matt Chorley on Times Radio, weekdays from 10am

Adam Wagner, Comment, page 27

# **QUEEN ELIZABETH II**





£900m

**KING CHARLES** 



£1.05bn

**PRINCE WILLIAM** 



**PRINCESS ANNE** 

# Which royals are really rolling in it

The secrets behind their wealth: assets held for centuries, a vast property portfolio and exemption from income and inheritance tax

**ROBERT** WATTS



Compiler of the Sunday Times Rich List

ing George VI was apparently the first person to refer to the royal family as "the Firm". It's not hard to see why the nickname has stuck. The monarchy and its institutions can resemble a vast wealthy corporation. Tot up the value of its buildings, land, mineral rights, art and other treasures and you arrive at a number north of £20 billion, a figure exceeding the stock market value of Tesco, currently £17 billion.

This has been a golden age for the fortunes of the world's richest people and the royals are no exception.

Over the past decade, their asset wealth has grown more rapidly than at any point since the first pieces of their estates were acquired by Edward the Confessor almost 1,000 years ago.

The property boom of recent years has boosted the value of their land and buildings. In just 10 years the wealth of the monarchy's largest institutions – the Crown Estate and the Duchies of Lancas-

end of March this year, those three bodies showed net assets of £18.3 billion, up from £9 billion in March 2012. What the royals control is often surprising. As well as more than 500,000 acres of land, they own hundreds of miles of the British coastline and an expanse of seabed larger than the UK's entire land mass. Ascot racecourse, the Oval cricket ground and many of London's most famous private members' clubs also sit within the estates.

For all that we can see about the wealth of the royal family, much of it is held in ways that are not transparent or fiendishly complicated to outsiders. Why are the royals unable to sell the assets they are said to own? Why are they not liable for inheritance tax or income tax? Why are the wills of senior royals not made public?

# THE CROWN ESTATE: £16.5BN

The bulk of the royal family's wealth lies in the vast property portfolio known as the Crown Estate, some of which pre-dates the Norman conquest.

The main Crown Estate wraps in land, buildings and seabed around England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The estate's wealth has grown to £16.5 billion and there is a sibling estate in Scotland – now administered by the Scottish government – that adds another £494.3 million.

Almost half of the main Crown Estate's wealth stems from London property. It owns almost all of Regent Street and valuable tracts of St James's and Pall Mall and

ter and Cornwall – has doubled. By the is the landlord of some of London's smartest clubs: the Athenaeum, Boo-

dle's, the Carlton and the Reform Club. As well as more than 240 buildings in the capital, the portfolio includes retail parks and shopping centres in Leeds Harlow, Milton Keynes, Newcastle upon Tyne and many other towns and cities around the regions.

The main Crown Estate owns nearly 200,000 acres of land, including Windsor Great Park and swathes of Cumbria and Wales. The Scottish estates of Glenlivet, Applegirth, Fochabers and Whitehill - owned by a separate Crown Estate which gives its profits to the Holyrood

government – add another 92,441 acres. The marine holdings range from the majority of the UK's foreshore, the land that appears and disappears beneath the waves between tides, and an enormous area of seabed, where the Crown makes a return with everything from carbon capture and potash mining to tidal energy and fibre-optic cables. The estate also has

more than 30 offshore wind farms. Although the Crown Estate belongs to the reigning monarch "in the right of the Crown", it is not their private property to do with as they please. The sovereign has no power to sell holdings and does not

receive income directly from the estate. Instead, under a system dating back to 1760, the profits from the Crown Estate are surrendered to the Treasury which returns a percentage of this sum to the royal family as the Sovereign Grant. This funds the official travel, property mainte-



The value of their land has doubled in ten years

nance and other running costs of the

royal household on official business. Up until 2017, 15 per cent of the estate's profits were returned to the royal family in this way. However, this share was raised to 25 per cent in 2017 for a 10-year period to fund the £369 million renovation of Buckingham Palace. In 2021-22 the

Sovereign Grant was £86.3 million. The 2011 Sovereign Grant Act stipulates that "the Monarch is not legally liable to pay income tax, capital-gains tax, or inheritance tax because the relevant enactments do not apply to the Crown".

So the monarch does not pay income tax on the Sovereign Grant and Charles will not receive a multi-billion inheritance tax bill for the Crown Estate.

## CHARLES III: £900 MILLION

Some aspects of the new King's finances are clear. We know Charles inherits the Duchy of Lancaster, an estate owned by the monarch since the 14th century with 45,092 acres of land in Cheshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire and south Wales.

The estate also has an "urban survey" that includes the 16th-century Queen's Savoy Chapel and Wellington House, a seven-floor office building on the Strand in London, as well as property in Liver-

pool, Blackburn and Harrogate. Castles owned by the Duchy across the Midlands, Wales and the north include Lancaster, Peveril, Bolingbroke, Tutbury, Pickering and Pontefract.

As with the Crown Estate, there are extensive assets along the coastline, ranging from a toll bridge over the Mersey to sub-sea pipelines and fibre-optic cables.

This Duchy showed £652.8 million on its balance sheet earlier this year and delivered profits of £24 million, a threefold increase since 2000. The sovereign receives all of this income to spend as they wish. The Queen chose to pay income tax on these earnings for the last three decades of her life.

The estate has not been without its embarrassments for the royal family. In 2017 the leak of off-shore financial records, known as the Paradise Papers, revealed that the Duchy had invested about £10 million in funds held in the Cayman Islands and Bermuda.

Although the Duchy now passes to Charles, other aspects of his finances are less clear. What he inherited from his late father Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, or from

his mother may never be known. Her fortune in this year's Sunday Times Rich List was estimated at £370 million - wealth comprised of property, investments and other assets. This valua-

tion excluded the Duchy of Lancaster. Although Buckingham Palace and other royal palaces are owned in trust, the Sandringham Estate in Norfolk, which runs to 20,000 acres, and Balmoral, with 50,000 acres, belonged to

that Charles will inherit both. The Queen also had a large stamp collection, art, jewellery and an extensive

the Queen personally. It seems plausible

# Christina Lamb Charles's challenge: to re-energise the Commonwealth



When the Kenyan writer Mukoma Wa Ngugi heard his country had proclaimed four days of national mourning for the Queen, he was astounded. "I'm sure she was a wonderful person. But history and colonial exploitation happen to real people. To expect those people to mourn the perpetrators of their trauma

His uncle was killed by British soldiers during the Mau Mau uprising in the 1950s, shortly after the young Elizabeth ascended to the throne. He was deaf: "They told him to stop but of course he did not hear them. They shot him dead. He wasn't even in the Mau Mau," said Ngugi. Like hundreds of thousands of Kenyans his family were forced off their land and into barbed wire

"I've spent years without

thinking about the Queen," said Ngugi, professor of literature at Cornell University. "But all this mourning and pageantry is making me and many others excavate long-buried feelings from our past.' Among the things he is

wondering: what is the point of the Commonwealth – said to be the Queen's favourite international organisation set up by her father King George VI in 1949 to maintain links with former colonies and now comprising 56 countries representing 2.5 billion people from Australia to Zambia?

He is not alone. "The future of the Commonwealth hangs in the balance," said Caroline Elkins, professor of history and of African and American studies at Harvard, whose most recent book is Legacy of

Violence: A History of the British Empire. "The Queen obsessively cultivated it and presented it as the face of British global influence but she was a revered figure full stop. It's not the same for Charles who does not have the same moral authority as his mother. Once the appropriate mourning is over there is going to be a lot of uncertainty.'

Many saw the Queen as the glue holding it together. Now her death, coming at a time of declining British global influence and when attitudes to colonialism are evolving rapidly, has drawn a complex reaction in Britain's former colonies, some of which fought violent struggles for independence.

For some the love still runs deep. "I was the first to cry on the island," said Steve Pryce, a market trader in Jamaica.

Chris Foot, a Kenyan entrepreneur and conservationist who was part of a group of Commonwealth scholars invited for drinks with the monarch at Windsor Castle in 1997, said: "The Queen was an amazing woman and people have forgotten the role she played in challenging cultural norms such as when she danced with Nkrumah [Ghana's independence leader and first

president] in Accra [in 1961]. ' But others are questioning why their countries still belong to an organisation presided over by a faraway monarch – 14, including Australia, Canada, New Zealand and a number of Caribbean and Pacific islands, retain as head of state.

Some argue that since leaving the EU, Britain needs the Commonwealth more than the Commonwealth

There is anger

over the

colonial

past

needs Britain. Across the former empire there are calls to dismantle the organisation, sever ties with the monarchy and demand a reckoning over colonial wrongs, including the return of riches "gifted" to the royal family such as the Koh-i-Noor diamond from

India. Fakir Aijazuddin, a Pakistani writer who served as honorary British consul in Lahore from 1995 until this year, describes the Commonwealth as "the severed still thrashing tail of empire".

"Now that the Royal Yacht Britannia has been decommissioned and the Queen is dead, the lure of banquets on it and in Buckingham Palace or Windsor has diminished," Aijazuddin said. "King Charles has inherited the title of Head of the

## **PROPERTY WHAT THEY OWN**

Land owned, in acres

70,000+

#### NORTHWEST

At least

0

The Duchy of Lancaster has estates in Cheshire and Lancashire and also owns the foreshore between the River Mersey and Barrow-in-Furness. The Crown Estate has shopping centres at Ellesmere Port and Aintree and extensive land holdings in Cumbria, also owning several wind farms off the coast.

**MIDLANDS** 

Not all of the royals' assets exude glamour. The Crown Estate owns shopping centres and retail parks in Leicester, Nottingham and Worcester. Its portfolio also includes a vast industrial park at Crick, near Daventry. The two Duchies own tracts of Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Northamptonshire.

WALES

Llwynywermod, a near 200-acre Carmarthenshire estate, served as the King's Welsh home while he was Prince of Wales. The Duchy of Lancaster owns the Ogmore Estate, which has a limestone quarry, castle and championship golf course at Southerndown. Close to Bridgend, this estate runs to more than 4,000 acres

need to be published.

40 on June 21.

very wealthy, having inherited around £10 million from his late mother Diana and a further £7 million from the Queen

The vast private estate he now controls

Those profits, referred to as "sur-

Charles will inherit from his mother will almost 20 per cent over the past 10 years. almost certainly remain a mystery Although the institution pays no corporabecause a court ruling in 1820 detertion tax, Charles voluntarily paid income mined that a monarch's will does not tax on what he received from the estate. William could in theory opt not to do so.

> The estate's income stems from vast property holdings. Almost 90 per cent of its £1.1 billion holdings are real estate. This includes almost 130,000 acres of land, stretching from Cornwall to Kent and large areas of Wales, Nottingham-

This may be the Duchy of Cornwall, but it owns four times as much land in neighbouring Devon with 67,200 acres of Dartmoor, almost a third of the national park. William's new estate has 260 farms and some 2,640 tenancy agreements. Other assets include £345 million of commercial property in London, Milton Keynes and elsewhere. Its Kennington Estate in London includes nearly 40 flats and houses as well as the Oval cricket ground.

only allowed to spend those annual surgains from sales. The offloading of any

The Queen bought Gatcombe Park for her daughter in 1976 for around £750,000, which is more than £4 million in today's SCOTLAND

Balmoral, surrounded by 50,000 acres of land, was owned by the Queen personally. The estates of Glenlivet, Fochabers, Whitehill and Applegirth stretch to 88,590 acres and are held by the Crown Estate Scotland, which is owned by the Monarch "in right of the Crown" but hands its profits to Holyrood.

YORKSHIRE

Few of the royal family's assets have been owned longer than Knaresborough Castle, which was built around 1100. The Duchy of Lancaster also has castles at Pontefract and Pickering. There are four main estates as well as luxury holiday lets at Scalby Lodge on the North Yorkshire coast near Scarborough.



**MEGHAN AND HARRY** 

**PRINCE ANDREW** 



Sandringham, where the Queen liked to spend Christmas, lies in a 20,000-acre estate. The two royal Duchies own land across the region, with the Duchy of Lancaster recently buying 1,000 acres between Boston and Spalding in Lincolnshire. The Crown Estate already owns several wind farms off the coast of East Anglia and has more planned.

SOUTHEAST

Windsor Great Park, Ascot racecourse and the Duke of Wessex's Bagshot Park account for just a sliver of the Crown Estates' near 200,000-acre land holdings in England and Wales. The Duchy of Cornwall in 2000 bought nearly 900 acres of farmland and residential property in Kent.

LONDON Circa

**Buckingham Palace is held in trust for** the Sovereign and the Duchies own properties close to the Strand and in Kennington, including the Oval cricket ground. The Crown Estate has more than 240 properties in the capital, including swathes of Regent Street, Pall Mall and St James's.



portfolio of shares. How much of this stood at £21.2 million in the past year, up

It's plausible that Charles may inherit most of his mother's assets - not least because of inheritance tax. As sovereign he is the only person who would be exempt from this charge, levied at up to 40 per cent on everything over the taxfree threshold of £325,000.

## PRINCE WILLIAM: £1.05 BILLION

With the death of his grandmother, William takes control of the Duchy of Cornwall and in doing so effectively becomes a billionaire within a few months of turning

The new Prince of Wales was already Mother, who died in 2002.

was set up in 1337 by Edward III to provide financial independence for his son and heir, Prince Edward. Charles became Duke of Cornwall as well as Prince of Wales in 1952 when his mother became Queen. Like his father before him, William will be able to use the profits from the estate to fund his "public, private and charitable" activities.

shire and Lincolnshire.

As with his father, William will not have a free reign with the estate's assets. He is pluses and cannot access any capital asset worth more than £500,000 has to be approved by the Treasury.

# PRINCESS ANNE: £50 MILLION

pluses" in the Duchy's annual report, money. The Grade II\* listed Gloucester-

SOUTHWEST

William's Duchy of Cornwall owns swathes of the region, wrapping in the Isles of Scilly and much of Dartmoor – including the land where the infamous prison stands.

Gloucestershire's Highgrove House has been the King's rural retreat since the 1980s and Princess Anne's Gatcombe Park estate lies just a few miles away.

shire mansion is set in 700 acres and just six miles from Highgrove, her elder brother's rural retreat. Princess Anne, 72, has spoken openly about ensuring that the estate supports itself. As well as making money from farming, Gatcombe also generates a return from hosting the annual Festival of British Eventing.

"Being able to take on a place like this – for me, I've got to make it work," Anne once told the BBC's Countryfile television programme. "This is not something that comes free, this has got to pay its way,

otherwise I can't stay here.' Considered for many years the "hardest working royal", Anne has some of her expenses met by the Sovereign Grant and is also thought to have received financial support from the Duchy of Lancaster. She is also thought to own an extensive jewellery collection.

## PRINCE ANDREW: £5 MILLION

The Queen's second son earlier this year settled a civil sexual assault case brought against him in the US by Virginia Giuffre. There have been suggestions that the Duke agreed a settlement between £7.5 and £12 million. Little is known about Andrew's finances or how - or even who will ensure – the bill is paid.

He receives an annual Royal Navy pension of £20,000. During his time as a working royal, he received around £250,000 a year to run his office.

However, those duties ceased in 2019 after the infamous *Newsnight* interview

about his relationship with the convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

But, like his siblings, the Duke has almost certainly inherited significant sums of family money over the years. The Queen also gave Andrew and his ex-wife Sarah Ferguson, Sunninghill Park as a wedding present. The Berkshire mansion was sold in 2007 for £15 million, which was £3m over the asking price.

But there is scant evidence of valuable assets owned by the Duke. He now lives at the Royal Lodge in Windsor, a Grade-II listed property that he leases from the Crown Estate. Ferguson is said to have recently bought a £5m home in Mayfair.

The sale of a Swiss chalet in the exclusive Swiss ski resort of Verbier that he owned jointly with his wife has proved tortuous. Worth an estimated £17 million, the seven-bedroom property is understood to have been bought with a hefty

## EDWARD AND SOPHIE: £10M

Edward, his wife Sophie and their two children live at Bagshot Park, a Surrey mansion set in just over 50 acres adjoining Windsor Great Park. The Wessexes became full-time working royals in 2002, fulfilling duties on behalf of the Queen. Their living costs are thought to be met through the Duchy of Lancaster, with their working lives financed by the Sovereign Grant.

With Bagshot Park leased from the Crown Estate, the Wessexes have little

has almost certainly inherited millions of pounds over the years from his grandmother and his late father.

obvious asset wealth. However, the Earl

## HARRY AND MEGHAN: £20M

Most of the couple's fortune stems from Harry's inheritance from his mother. By the time the Duke of Sussex was eligible to receive the money on his 25th birthday, it had grown to some £10 million. He is also thought to have received a stipend from the Duchy of Cornwall until relations with his family soured two years ago.

The Duchess was independently wealthy before marrying the Duke, receiving around \$50,000 an episode for her 100-show run on the TV show Suits.

Since "taking a step back" from royal duties, the couple have developed new ways to maintain their glamorous lifestyle in California. Although the Sussexes were apparently not paid for their explosive Oprah Winfrey interview earlier this year, a deal with Spotify to make podcasts may deliver as much as £18 million for the couple. They have also signed a deal to make programmes with Netflix.

One of their most successful money making endeavours has been property. Local estate agents have suggested the nine-bedroom home they bought in Santa Barbara for £11 million may have doubled in value since the Sussexes bought it two years ago. \* All members of the royal family's wealth is

estimated

Commonwealth but not the goodwill the Queen had earned."

Dr Sue Onslow, director of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London, said: "I'm convinced he will work as hard as her but he is not his mother. She really was a remarkable public and private figure and has left very large shoes to fill.

"It's not easy coming into an organisation already facing a multiplicity of challenges and more and more people asking what it's for," she added. "I don't think the Commonwealth will collapse but it's facing choppy waters."

One problem is the organisation's limited budget, just £24 million for the secretariat in Marlborough House, with the largest contribution coming from

The Conservative government, which has championed the Commonwealth as a potential alternative platform for influence and trade, is also in a testy relationship with the organisation after Boris Johnson backed a losing candidate for secretary general last year.

Then there is the awkward question of what the Commonwealth stands for, given that a considerable number of members still outlaw homosexuality, don't recognise same-sex marriage, maintain the death penalty and have poor records on human rights and press freedom.

It seems likely that more of the new king's so-called "realms and territories" will decide to break away from the House of Windsor.

Last December, Barbados

became the first country in almost 30 years to break ties with the monarchy. It remains part of the Commonwealth. In June the new prime minister of Australia, Anthony Albanese, appointed an assistant minister for the republic, although a referendum in this term has been ruled out. Later that month the Jamaican government declared its goal of becoming a republic by the end of 2025

A generational shift was under way, Onslow said. Many of these nations had very young populations who want to move on from colonial attachments and find it odd and offensive to pay allegiance to a monarch in a far-off land.

"In Jamaica older generations have a feeling of connection and deep affection for the Queen



Charles with the Jamaican president, Andrew Holness

younger people far less so," she said.

This is tied to what is seen as the monarchy's resistance to the reparations debate.

"When I speak to colleagues in the Caribbean there is a real sense of anger among a lot of people about the monarchy's reluctance to address its colonial past," added Onslow.

Last month, President Nana Akufo-Addo of Ghana urged European nations to pay reparations to Africa for a slave trade that he said stifled the continent's "economic, cultural and psychological progress" The need to address the

wrongs of empire is urgent, agred Chandrika Kaul, professor of modern history at St Andrews. "The worst thing would be to try and ignore it and pretend it's all done and dusted. Charles

could take a leaf from his mother's book with her visit to Ireland in 2011 when she wore emerald green and spoke of contrition and redemption."

Some countries who are neither former colonies nor in some cases English-speaking are still seeking to join the Commonwealth, however. Rwanda, Togo, Gabon and Mozambique are all recent members and others such as South Sudan are waiting. Zimbabwe, which was suspended 20 years ago, after which President Robert Mugabe angrily announced they were quitting, has been lobbying to get back.

Supporters of the Commonwealth argue that it could become an effective vehicle for causes that Charles particularly cares about, such as young people, multi-faith dialogue and environment,

which might resonate with members - particularly some like Pakistan which was recently inundated with floods it blames on climate change, or the small island states of the Pacific facing existential threats. That vision though is yet to be defined.

"Does the Commonwealth have a future?" asked Kaul. "It's a very legitimate question that has been on the horizon for a while and I wouldn't underplay the difficulties. It's going to be a really difficult balancing act for Charles.

"But every end is a beginning and perhaps it's an opportunity. If Charles approaches it right he might be able to energise it, there is scope for a new more relevant Commonwealth more in tune with a 21st-century world and its issues." @ChristinaLamb

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# My stalker thrived on hate. I'm drained, says Jeremy Vine

A YouTuber has been jailed for 5½ years after terrorising a string of BBC staff. Rosamund Urwin hears how the Radio 2 host came face to face with his harasser in court

The BBC's

advice

tome

was to

**'block** 

ignore'

and

**ROSAMUND URWIN** 



**Media Editor** 

or Jeremy Vine, the worst part of his stalking ordeal was tell ing his teenage daughters that they needed to be careful leaving the house. The Radio 2 presenter feared that his tormentor, the former BBC Leeds host turned YouTuber Alex Belfield, would incite one of his 360,000 followers to turn up at the Vine family home, possibly with a knife or acid. Belfield had shared Vine's address with his army of trolls.

"Because he's a coward, Belfield was never going to come to my house himself, but my fear was someone inspired by him would come and attack me or my children because of the hatred he was engendering against me," says Vine. "My youngest daughter was 13 then and she burst into tears when I told her there may be somebody who wants to hurt her. He doesn't even know my daughter's name, but she's one of his victims." It was a year before she regained her confidence in leaving the house.

On Friday, Belfield was jailed for 5½ years - of which he will serve half in custody - for stalking Vine and three others. He was found not guilty of stalking four others. The judge also made indefinite restraining orders in relation to all the complainants, including the four involved in the not-guilty cases.

When I meet Vine, 57, at Radio 2's Wogan House base in central London, he's as ebullient as he is on air, but he feels drained by this "exhausting" experience, and has struggled to sleep. In court, Vine dubbed Belfield "the Jimmy Savile

Belfield, 42, is not a conventional stalker; he only prowled online. The prosecution's case was that he harassed his victims by making scores of slanderous videos, posting abuse on Twitter and sending bullying emails. Vine describes it as "Olympic-level stalking", adding: "Belfield took all the toxins and put them in the syringe. He made it poisonous.

While he was tormenting his victims with online abuse, Belfield, who has nine employees, was estimated to be making £528,000 a year from his YouTube channel, The Voice of Reason - although Google has now stopped his channel carrying advertising. It carried nasty and sometimes misogynistic, racist or homophobic content, but he also interviewed famous names such as Nigel Farage, the former Ukip leader, and had defenders

including the Tory MP Andrew Bridgen. Last weekend, Belfield - by then a convicted stalker – performed alongside the right-wing controversialist Katie Hopkins at the Joe Longthorne Theatre in Blackpool, at a gig titled Two Gobshites Live, which promised to be "not PC but totally LOL". With his fans, Belfield has created an alternative reality where he is a free speech mar-

requested donations claiming that he was suing the BBC, rather than being prosecuted for stalking. "Because his followers are in this capsule that's insulated from everything else, you can tell them anything," Vine says.

He became aware of Belfield in 2019, when he was alerted to Belfield abusing him in his videos. "I had never heard his name before," he recalls. "It said 'Jeremy Vine and Victoria Derbyshire are complete c\*\*\*s'. You're used to rough and tumble on social media [so] I didn't think any more of it, but I tweeted a photo and said \{ something like, 'Who on earth is this guy?" A fellow BBC presenter Stephen Nolan immediately messaged Vine, advising him to remove the post "because you don't know what this guy is capable of". Vine took it down, but Belfield had spotted it. "I'm assuming he's like a pilot in the front of an airliner," Vine says. "He's got eight screens up to monitor all his enemies simultaneously. The message being up for two minutes was enough for him to realise: 'I've got a little bite on the line.' Then he really opened up with abuse."

Vine spoke to the BBC, whose initial advice was "block and ignore". "I think that approach is outdated," he says. "It doesn't work." He then spoke to a colleague who told him the story of Belfield's behaviour at BBC Leeds: "I realised this guy is industrial-level ... He caused me a lot of trouble, but he caused more for those in Leeds."

Belfield worked at the station between 2010 and 2011. He was briefly suspended after he told a weather presenter that he would watch her naked on his leather sofa, and then his contract was not renewed. Some ex-colleagues believe

this was the trigger for his trolling, but say his behaviour was unacceptable before that. Liz Green, a BBC Radio Leeds presenter who hosted the show after Belfield's, recalls him being rude to the late gardening expert Joe Maiden; that organisations started to refuse to put people up for interview; that he made a young female staff member cry and asked an older female guest the colour of her

After Belfield left, Green became one of his early online targets, although he was cleared of stalking her. "I spent years appealing for help and I still live in fear of what those people [his fans] might do," Green says. "It made me suicidal." In July 2020, she wrote to Lord Hall, the directorgeneral at the time, who intervened. The BBC then started to collect statements.

By then, Vine had endured eight months of abuse and went to the police. He is tough: during the pandemic, antivax protesters delivered a lawsuit to his house, which he shrugs off as "almost comedic", and he had a female stalker before, who would follow him home. "That was very upsetting, but it was a picnic compared with Belfield, because in the end, the interception by the police was quite straightforward and then it was done," he recalls. "Whereas with Belfield it was coming from so many different angles." Vine's TV licence was cancelled, he believes – although he can't prove it – by Belfield or one of his fans.

The cruellest lie that he spread about Vine was that he had stolen £1,000 from a charity. Vine's friend, the radio executive John Myers, died in 2019 and there was a collection for a memorial service. Vine donated £500, and money left over was presented to Myers's widow to donate to the Northern Head and Neck Cancer Charity in early 2020.

"You can't think that there's anything untoward there," says Vine. "But somehow, Belfield created a story that I stole £1,000 from my friend's memorial service, and says it again and again, and then people start to believe it."

A source who knows Belfield says he was disgruntled that he hadn't been invited to Myers's memorial. Belfield's followers kept asking Vine on social media "where's the £1,000?" Belfield encouraged them to call Vine's Radio 2 show. Vine was even asked by a BBC press officer to respond to Belfield's requests under freedom of information laws for details about the fabricated theft.

Sources within the BBC are critical of how the corporation initially handled Belfield. One claimed: "It was repeatedly raised with the BBC that he was making videos about me and I was told it was just crap on the internet. I'm grateful to Jeremy, who has been very brave, but it was only really acknowledged as a problem by the BBC when it involved one of their stars. We were the warm-up act; by the time Belfield got to Jeremy, he'd become a master in weaponising the internet."

The case was heard at Nottingham crown court for five weeks this summer. Belfield represented himself, so the court appointed a barrister to cross-examine witnesses. However, the barrister caught Covid, so Vine ended up being questioned by the man who had marred his life. This was the first time Vine had

> posed to be questioned directly in cases of stalking," he explains. "But I'd gone up to Nottingham, and was sitting there thinking the only way I can move this thing forward was to be questioned by him directly. I think he gets off Belfield's first ques-

met Belfield. "You're not sup-

him to define the word "c\*\*\*". Vine had Vine expected the court to be packed with Belfield's followers, but only three older women were sitting behind him. "Every time I spoke, they would huff and puff, to the point where it was really off-putting. But it made me wonder if his followers may drift away; that's where he gets his strength

tion to Vine was asking

cried in court when he mentioned his father who died four years ago. "It made it look like Belfield had broken me," he says. "But actually, it's because I put up a tribute on Facebook to my dad, and the first comment was, 'What if your father had known his son was a thieving toerag?" Vine says that Belfield couldn't be found when the jury brought back their verdict: "He was round the corner in Greggs. How do you police this if he doesn't care?"

He was a

master of

making

internet

a weapon

Belfield was found guilty of the basic" stalking of Vine and the theatre blogger Philip Dehany, and of causing serious harm to the BBC



Jeremy Vine was reduced to tears by Belfield, below left, at Nottingham crown court

Radio Northampton presenter Bernie Keith, as well as the videographer Ben

Keith contemplated suicide after Belfield tried to ruin his reputation, while Belfield's videos about Hewis included one in which his toddler son's face had the word "liar" stamped across it.

He was cleared, however, of stalking four women at the BBC. "What I think happened was that the women were told again and again, 'Don't worry, you're overplaying it', so they waited ten years," says Vine. "And then the question is: 'Well, why didn't you report it earlier?' And on the back of that, he gets off...But it was good to get half those charges to stick, because we're still trying to get our heads around the idea that stalking is not just somebody following you down the street. I don't think anyone has ever been convicted of stalking four people simultaneously, and you can only do that with a digital presence."

More recently Belfield turned his attention to the detective on the case, Janet Percival, posting videos accusing her of corruption. She is understood to be suing him for libel, as is Vine. He adds that stalking is all too common for broadcasters: "Of my three best female friends at the BBC, all of them have had stalkers. I think stalking is the industrial disease of broadcasting." It has made him more cautious in his interactions with listeners online. "I love hearing from them, but [Belfield] has poisoned it," he adds.

Vine and Green both praised Nottinghamshire police for taking the crimes seriously, but are much more critical of the tech platforms such as YouTube and Twitter. "We had to get lawyers to get his shit taken down, and even then it's hard," Vine says. "The companies just say no. They don't have any moral values.'

Belfield seemed unrepentant, but on Friday David Aubrey KC told the judge on his behalf that he was "deeply sorry for what he did", including to the women involved in the other charges.

For Vine and the others, one comfort is that they can speak to each other now that the trial is over. "Only the other victims understand how vicious he is," says Vine. "There was this amazing feeling of: 'We've suddenly found our tribe here.'

**I cried** and it

looked like he had broken



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### **NEWS**

# Buy furniture Conran made for his very own habitat

Items designed and used by the man who changed our homeware habits are going under the hammer

The objects to

be auctioned

"50 years of

Victoria

undisciplined

hoarding" by Sir

**Terence Conran** 

are the result of

**Liam Kelly** Arts Correspondent

His furniture is in many of our homes but Sir Terence Conran spent half a century painstakingly filling his own with original designs that were never mass produced.

Now, almost exactly two years after his death, hundreds of items from Conran's personal collection – many of which he designed – are to go under the hammer after the sale of his Berkshire estate.

When Conran, who died aged 88 in September 2020, bought Barton Court in Kintbury, Berkshire in 1971, it was a wreck. But he lovingly set about restoring the 11-bedroom mansion.

His widow, Victoria, 67, said the house's contents were the result of "50 years of undisciplined hoarding" that took weeks to sort – a process she found a "wrench" but also cathartic. She has moved to Battersea, southwest London, because the house was "unsustainable" for just one person to live in.

Best known for founding Habitat in 1964 and, later, The Conran Shop, he was the man who introduced Britain to the duvet – which he said "undoubtedly changed the sex life of Europe" – the wok, the beanbag and the chicken brick.

He then turned his attention to gastronomy and owned London restaurants such as Bibendum, which he opened in 1987, and Quaglino's. It was in 1997, at his Le Pont de la Tour restaurant near Tower Bridge, that new prime minister Tony Blair wooed President Bill Clin-

Many of the items, which will

be auctioned by Bonhams on December 14, are one-of-a-kind Conrans that were never seen at either of his retail empires.

They include a "beautiful" chest of drawers he had made from cherry wood that his wife, an interior designer, kept in her studio, and a dressing table in the style of a steamer trunk.

The first thing Conran did each morning was draw, and he had design assistants from his Benchmark furniture business based on the estate. "Terence's favourite thing was to have his Benchmark in the stables, where he could get things prototyped overnight," said Victoria, his fourth wife, who married Conran in 2000. "He would sketch a piece of furniture, send it down and he would have a maquette [scale model] built. We ended up with prototypes in the house that nobody ever had."

Harvey Cammell, the auction house's global director of valuations and private collections, said "standout" items were the 8ft wide walnut desk with extending flanks and a fleet of model Bugatti Type 57s he hung on the wall.

about 20 years ago because they were his favourite shade of "Conran blue". Some of the 30 models are motorised, but most have pedals and were intended as children's toys. The cars have guide prices of £500 to £8,000. Other highlights of the sale include an extensive wine collection, Conrandesigned coffee tables, a life-size wooden model of a horse

Conran bought the car collection

ffee tables, a life-size wooden model of a horse and a collection of handwhittled hazel thumbsticks – a sort of walking stick – created by his friend, the late restaurateur Antonio Carluccio.





# Tills ring out to see Santa – for £200

Louise Eccles
Consumer Affairs Editor

Meeting Father Christmas once involved a quick chat at a school fair or a handshake as he passed by on a float from the local Rotary Club.

These days, it is a meticulously planned encounter that must be booked up to eight months in advance and which can cost a family of four almost £200.

Parents are setting alarms on their phones so they can book the best tickets in town for their children when they go on sale. On the parenting forum, Mumsnet, one mother said she had to book tickets in July to meet Santa at Longleat safari park in Wiltshire. "Even then we could only get a weekday," she complained.

At Longleat, parents first need to buy tickets for its Festival of Light then a train ride to a magical grotto. The total cost is £193.60 for two adults and two children.

The most sought-after grotto experiences are in such high demand that parents must often queue on websites from midnight much as they would for tickets to music festivals such as Glastonbury.

Even garden centre grottos are now charging £50 to meet Santa. At Ruxley Manor garden centre, in Sidcup, Kent, children can join Mother Christmas to make a tree decoration before meeting Father Christmas in the grotto. The cost is £50 for up to six people.

The National Trust is offering storytime with Father Christmas from £5 per child on top of admission prices to its historic houses.

For those who have not yet booked, prepare to face disappointment. Sunday, December 18 appears to be the most popular day and many grotto events are already sold out across the country on this date, including at Bolton Abbey in North Yorkshire and Dobbies garden centre in Liverpool. @Louise\_Eccles





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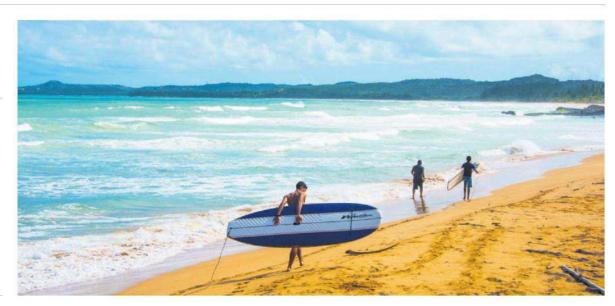


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# No 10 chief of staff in FBI inquiry over 'election bribe' in Puerto Rico

Mark Fullbrook, who was handpicked to run Truss's election campaign, has been interviewed about his links to a Venezuelan banker

### **GABRIEL POGRUND**



**Whitehall Editor** 

iz Truss's most senior adviser has been interviewed by FBI agents about an alleged criminal plot to bribe an American politician and influence a US election. Mark Fullbrook is the Downing Street chief of staff – the prime minister's main aide with a leading role in shaping government strategy. He ran Truss's leadership campaign and has advised foreign governments and prime ministers including Boris Johnson, Margaret Thatcher and Sir John Major.

Today it can be revealed that he was involved in an alleged conspiracy to subvert the democracy of Puerto Rico, the US-administered Caribbean island. Prosecutors have said those responsible "struck a blow to the heart of our democracy" and "eroded the confidence of our citizens in their institutions of governance".

Fullbrook, 60, was made a formal subject of a US Department of Justice (DoJ) and FBI investigation this year, meaning that federal investigators were interested in his conduct. In April the FBI asked Britain's National Crime Agency (NCA) and the Metropolitan Police to help secure his attendance at a formal interview. He agreed after being approached by Scotland Yard. His company was subpoenaed and forced to hand over hundreds of sensitive emails. Fullbrook has since signed

ating as a witness. The FBI inquiry centres on an alleged bribe by Julio Herrera Velutini, an international banker and Conservative Party donor based in Mayfair. Velutini, 50, allegedly promised Puerto Rico's governor, Wanda Vázquez Garced, \$300,000 for her re-election campaign in 2020 on condition that she sacked the head of the island's financial regulator. It had started to examine suspicious transactions at Bancredito, the bank Velutini owns. According to a criminal indictment, the governor agreed.

Velutini, who holds Italian and Venez-

donate to a US election. He did not want the deal to become known, the indictment states. Instead, he paid the money to CT Group, an Australian-British lobbying firm founded by Sir Lynton Crosby, the political strategist nicknamed the "Wizard of Oz". CT, known for its close ties to centre-right parties around the world, then supported Vázquez Garced, a Donald Trump-supporting Republican, in her unsuccessful re-election bid.

Fullbrook, then CT's chief global projects officer, took the lead. He is described in criminal indictments as "International Consulting Firm-Partner #2". According to prosecutors, he flew to Puerto Rico to tell Vázquez Garced how he could help her to win the election, provided her with a campaign strategy and polling, and brokered secret payments between Velutini and CT. Velutini is alleged to have "concealed the illegal and corrupt purpose of the bribes paid to benefit Vázquez Garced by funnelling certain payments for political consulting services" via third-party bank accounts.

Last month the DoJ charged Vázquez Garced and Velutini with crimes that carry a penalty of up to 20 years in prison. They deny wrongdoing. Several co-conspirators have been charged or convicted.

On August 4, the day Vázquez Garced was arrested and charged, Kenneth Polite Jr, an assistant attorney-general at the DoJ, said: "The alleged bribery scheme rose to the highest levels of the Puerto Rican government, threatening public trust in our electoral processes and institutions of governance." The FBI would not say if others could be charged.

Fullbrook is being represented by criminal defence lawyers at the white shoe firm White & Case and recently signed a "proffer agreement" with the FBI. This does not grant him absolute immunity but means he can provide evidence knowing it will not be used against him in criminal proceedings. He has since co-operated with the FBI as a witness.

His involvement in an alleged criminal scheme is known by officials in Whitehall, who have raised concerns about whether Fullbrook will obtain the top levels of security clearance inside Downing Street. Fullbrook said he had told the Cabinet Office propriety and ethics team about the controversy. He has not yet passed security vetting, but insisted this was not unusual and dismissed questions about his suitability for his No 10 role. A White-

uelan passports, was not eligible to hall source said his involvement in the FBI inquiry posed "countless problems". These include the diplomatic consequences of the prime minister's top adviser having been investigated by Britain's closest ally. The Biden administration has allocated huge resources to defending elections from foreign influence.

Truss is likely to face questions of her own, including whether Fullbrook informed her and, if so, how she reacted. Before entering No 10, Fullbrook spent time at Chevening, Truss's country house as foreign secretary, helping to finalise her cabinet appointments and plans for the cost of living crisis. Last week Fullbrook addressed officials in Downing Street, telling them Truss wanted to turn "a two-year administration into a sevenyear administration", and emphasising that the government would draw a line under years of scandal over ethics and transparency. According to The Times, he told staff that it was a privilege to work in No 10 and reinforced a "tie mandate" requiring a smart dress code. He also raised eyebrows by declaring that he was not a protégé of Crosby and suggesting the opposite was true. The fact he raised the matter at a time of national mourning was described by one source as "ridiculous", The Times reported.

fortnight ago, Velutini travelled to Puerto Rico to plead not guilty before being released on bail. He first published a post on his blog acknowledging that he had paid CT but claiming it was for generic research made available to various people and institutions, rather than Vázquez Garced alone. This is challenged by evi-

dence in a US criminal indict ment. According to prosecutors, Velutini first met Vázquez Garced at a wedding, where a mutual contact placed them on the same table. He allegedly promised her money as long as she "threw out" the head of the financial regulator investigating his bank, and let him choose the successor. Vázquez Garced allegedly agreed. On February 28, 2020, six months before the election, her team secured the regulaMark Fullbrook, below, worked for the lobbying firm that advised Wanda Vázguez Garced, above, in her failed re-election bid to be governor of Puerto Rico in the Caribbean

tor's resignation letter. They forwarded it to Velutini's associate before it was made public, attaching a "heart" emoji. Velutini was allegedly then invited to pick the new head of the regulator and chose a former employee at his bank.

That same day, Fullbrook flew from London to San Juan, the capital of Puerto Rico, for a 6pm meeting at a luxury hotel with Velutini and Vázquez Garced. Prosecutors say the purpose was for Fullbrook to walk Vázquez Garced through a presentation showing the governor what CT - with Velutini's cash – could do for her.

Velutini had been put in touch with CT by a disgraced former FBI agent who had committed criminal offences and since become a private investigator. Velutini had allegedly asked CT to deliver polling and research for Vázquez Garced, giving her a competitive advantage in an island where poverty is widespread and big money in politics is less common. In one text message recovered by the FBI, Velutini indicated that CT would even pick a campaign manager to run her re-election

bid on the ground. It would be a seasoned strategist from Washington DC, he said, not a "monkey from Puerto

> The hotel meeting was attended by Fullbrook, Velutini and Vázquez Garced and several associates. Those present were warned that there could be no delays and that, once the meeting started, no one could join them. Fullbrook and his colleague told Vázquez Garced how they would help her win. Within days, she expressed her approval for CT and Velutini agreed to pay the firm their first tranche of money. Fullbrook sent invoices to Velutini using related to his bank.

The research and polling that CT subsequently produced for Vázquez Garced was handled with secrecy and shared with only a tight circle, the indictment says. This challenges Velutini's public insistence that it was made available to other organisations and even shown to a local newspaper. On one occasion, one of Velutini's asso-

ciates wrote to Vázquez Garced's team saying: "This is the report by the London folks, PLEASE DO [NOT] PRINT OR

SHARE THIS WITH ANYONE."

Despite CT's work, in August 2020, Vázquez Garced lost the election by 58 per cent to 42 per cent, ending her political career and depriving Velutini of person on the inside. The banker, behavingly increasingly recklessly, is alleged to have then sought to bribe Vázquez Garced's successor. By 2021, the FBI and DoJ had launched an investigation.

Fullbrook has been a prominent figure in Westminster since the 1980s. The Warwick Business School graduate was deputy director of Conservative Campaign Head quarters (CCHQ) under Thatcher and helped run Major's election bid in 1992. in 2010 he joined CT, which has worked for blue chip companies, Big Tobacco firms and politicians including Johnson, David Cameron and Sir Iain Duncan Smith.

Fullbrook lives in Hampshire and until recently owned a holiday home in St Lucia in the Caribbean. He faced adverse publicity after his wife, Lorraine, then Tory MP for South Ribble, used expenses to book emergency flights from the island to London so she could take part in a vote on Syria in 2013.

He was appointed manager of Johnson's successful leadership campaign in 2019, on loan from CT. His wife, 63, who quit parliament in 2015, was given a peerage by Johnson shortly afterwards.

The FBI investigation is understood to have contributed to a serious rift between him and Crosby. In April, Fullbrook quit CT after more than a decade and founded his own lobbying company, Fullbrook Strategies. Crosby said he was "sad" about the move and agreed to sit on the firm's advisory board, but privately is said to be furious and has told friends Fullbrook will make a poor chief of staff at No 10. Sources close to Crosby denied the FBI matter was the main cause of any rift

A Fullbrook spokesman said he was "committed to and complies with all laws and regulations in any jurisdiction in which he works and is confident he has done so in this matter". He said Fullbrook had "fully" and "completely" engaged with the US authorities. He added: "The work was engaged only by Mr Herrera [Velutini] ... and no one else. Mr Fullbrook never did nay work for nor presented any research findings to the governor or her capaign."

The Sarawak Report website and Open Democracy contributed to this article.

Liam Kelly Arts Correspondent

Sue Barker, the former tennis player and Wimbledon presenter, has revealed that she was an unplanned child and her mother once "drank a lot of gin and bounced down the stairs" in an apparent attempt to end the pregnancy.

Her parents, Bob and Betty, had "just budgeted for two kids" when she was conceived shortly after the birth of her older brother, Neil. Jane, her sister, is six years her senior. Barker, 66, said: "My dad,

particularly, worked really hard but they just budgeted for two kids. They didn't have a lot of money left over and a few months after my brother was born, suddenly mum was pregnant again. She apparently drank a lot of gin and bounced down the stairs one time.'

The former Grand Slam winner said on Desert Island Discs, to be broadcast today on BBC Radio 4: "But she always said, 'I didn't want you. I feel so bad about it.' But I think we made up. My mum and I had the most wonderful relationship."

Barker said she was immensely grateful that they helped her to have a career in tennis despite their financial

struggles. "Even to buy me a tennis racket was a huge thing because if you have three children you can't favour one," she said.

She grew up in Paignton, Devon, and went to a convent school. Barker was plucked from obscurity by the tennis coach Arthur Roberts, who recognised her talent when she was ten.

She became one of the best British players of her generation, and won the

Sue Barker left the **BBC** over the summer



1976 French Open, overcoming Renáta Tomanová in the final.

Following a brief romance with Cliff Richard, Barker married the landscape gardener and former police officer Lance Tankard in 1988, whom she describes on Desert Island Discs as "my rock". She adds: "He's my soulmate and I couldn't

imagine my life without him." Having retired from tennis aged 28, Barker became a broadcaster and spent three decades as the face of Wimbledon on the BBC.

She also hosted the quiz show A Question of Sport for 23 years. Barker and her long-serving team captains, the former Test cricketer Phil Tufnell and the ex-England rugby union star Matt Dawson, were dismissed in 2020, and the bungled handling of it made her think that she wanted to leave

Wimbledon "on my own Despite leaving the BBC for good over the summer, Barker picked two of the corporation's songs as part of her eight discs: the sound from a video montage of Wimbledon champions played this year; and the theme tune to Grandstand, the now-defunct sports show she once

# My parents planned for two kids. We'll stage your spontaneous romantic gesture I was the third, says Sue Barker

## **Megan Agnew**

Nothing says "I love you" quite like the words daubed on pink umbrellas. Or a giant plastic igloo in your garden decorated with fairy lights. Or renting out the grounds of a castle, putting on a suit of armour and riding a horse towards your girlfriend.

A new sector in the events industry has emerged romantic gesture planners, who are getting so much work they have to turn some away.

Clients spend between £1,000 and £50,000 on extravagant marriage proposals. More recently, however, they have been splashing out on "date nights" and occasions to ask their partners to be their

"official" girlfriend, to mark the anniversary of the first "I love you", celebrate the conception of a child, or re-propose when their first one wasn't impressive enough.

The whole event is often filmed with drones and photographed by professionals, packaged up to be posted on Instagram, ready to receive the "likes".

Gustav wanted to win back his ex. And he had £50,000 to do it. He hired Amanda Brown, co-founder of romantic events planner The One Romance, who organised a private jet to fly her from Switzerland to London, where Gustav met her on the tarmac. The couple had a private viewing

of the crown jewels at the Tower of London, a perfume created for her, a trip down the Thames in a speedboat featured in a James Bond movie, then dinner at the Greenwich Old Navy College, which he hired, including a string quartet. She agreed to give it another go.

Brown started the company nine years ago and business is booming, organising events for celebrities, royals and footballers.

"When my sister [her co-founder] came up with the idea I told her she was barking mad," said Brown. "But she understood social media and how everyone now wants that memory captured. Since Covid, my

business has tripled. I have to turn down jobs.'

For another client she arranged a love song to be written about his girlfriend, which they listened to on headphones while people stood on a nearby bridge and opened pink umbrellas that read: "I love you."

"A lot of it is about that photo," said Brown. "A photographer and videographer will capture their immediate reaction, and then they redo it in a photoshoot afterwards for about an hour.

"With nerves they might not have gone down on one knee at the right angle, so people will redo it so they get the perfect moment they might share with friends and families." Often she has to stop women filming the proposal on their phones as it's happening.

Lisa Black, the founder of L&L Events, a premium proposal planning service, said it is "a big business", adding: "I launched in 2020 but I wish I'd done it earlier." One of her clients, Adrien

Rose, 28, agreed with his girlfriend, Ludmilla Dias, 27, at the beginning of this year that they would get married. She wanted "a woodland area with fairy lights, candles on the floor".

He hired L&L events with a £2,000 budget and proposed this month in Greenwich Park, southeast London. Obviously, she said yes. @MeganAgnew

> A heartfelt message with umbrellas can lead to an outpouring of emotion



# Tim Shipman and Harry Yorke



The PM is going for broke with tax cuts and a controversial push to give businesses more freedom. But will her gamble pay off?

her team of senior advisers in the cabinet room on Monday morning, the prime minister was in "businesslike" mode. The focus was not on the preparations for the Queen's funeral, but on the second launch of her government this week. "She wants everyone's foot to the floor from Wednesday," said an ally present.

The next week has the makings of being the pivotal moment of Truss's premiership, despite it only being a few weeks in, with a string of announcements that will shape the next two years of British politics and lay down the gauntlet to Labour, who begin their party conference next weekend.

The government is set to announce a huge package to ease energy costs for business on Wednesday, a programme to tackle the backlog of care in the NHS on Thursday and then a tax-cutting minibudget on Friday. "We've got to cram two weeks' news into four days," a Downing Street source said. As a senior Conservative put it: "Public attention will start to switch from Elizabeth to Liz. That's the key moment for us."

The Monday meeting itself, which Truss regards as "the inner sanctum", is a symbolic change from the practices of recent prime ministers. Gone is the daily morning meeting in No 10 where aides consider how to respond to new developments. Instead, Truss uses the Monday gathering for "tasking" senior civil servants and her directors of strategy, policy, economics and communications.

Kwasi Kwarteng's statement will be centred on Truss's £30 billion promise to reverse the national insurance rise, cancel the scheduled increase in corporation tax, and scrap green levies on energy bills. One senior government figure said the fiscal event would be "much bigger than people expect", which is saying something when it is already widely predicted to cost upwards of £150 billion. That has fuelled specula-

tion that Truss and the

Expected before midday on Friday,

chancellor could cut income tax and bring forward plans to scrap the rise in national insurance contributions, so people see the benefit in October, rather than next April.

It is believed that an income tax cut is more likely in a formal budget, expected in November, since the "September statement" will come with only sketchy costings and no overall economic forecast from the Office for Budget Responsibility (ORR)

The energy bills announcement will set out details of the energy price guarantee, which will freeze average household energy bills at £2,500 a year. A similar scheme for businesses will effectively cap the amount suppliers can charge them, with the difference funded by government subsidy. It will require primary legislation.

Plans for new low-tax "investment zones" are also ready to turbo-charge growth in areas ripe for redevelopment, putting "rocket boosters" under Rishi Sunak's plan for freeports, which both Kwarteng and Truss felt was not radical enough. Areas awarded the new status will benefit from tax reliefs but also a reduction in planning restrictions and environmental regulations to accelerate house building and infrastructure projects.

Kwarteng is expected to deliver one full budget before Christmas and another smaller fiscal event in March to satisfy the legal requirement for the OBR to produce two economic forecasts a year. There is also talk of a new three-year spending review at the end of the year.

The department for business, run by Jacob Rees-Mogg, has responsibility for publicising the cost of living package. It has been dubbed the "Ministry of Growth" in Whitehall and could get a formal name change. Rees-Mogg's new responsibilities have led to a Damascene conversion for the business secretary, famous in Whitehall for a relentlessly hostile approach to government press officers. Advisers were amused to receive a circular from him last week begging for another 15 spin doctors to help sell details of the plan to voters.

Truss's team think inflation will peak at 11 per cent in October. She and Kwarteng believe strongly that their plan will boost growth in the medium term. "This is about growing the size of the pie so we can fund tax cuts and public spending," a

source said. "It will require a complete recalibration of the political class."

But in the Treasury and parts of No 10, there is concern that the weakness of the pound could undermine the prime minister's gung-ho charge for growth, paid for with billions in new borrowing. One of Truss's most senior aides admitted to a friend last week that the collapse of the pound to \$1.13 on Friday, the lowest level since 1985, is causing grave concern since it is a bellwether of market confidence in the government's economic strategy and

could send the cost of borrowing rising.

"They're getting in a panic about what is happening to the pound," a senior Tory

Treasury officials are also reeling from the dismissal of permanent secretary Sir Tom Scholar "within an hour" of Kwarteng's arrival. The shortlist to replace him includes the senior Treasury officials Cat Little, Beth Russell and Clare Lombardelli; permanent secretaries Alex Chisholm, Antonia Romeo, Jeremy Pocklington and Sir Chris Wormald; and Jo Shanmugalingam, a director general at the business department. Romeo, who is close to Truss, is favourite.

While political-civil service tensions are part and parcel of Whitehall, insiders said political relations between No IO and No II are harmonious because Truss and Kwarteng are close friends as well as ideological bedfellows. Matt Sinclair, Truss's new chief economic adviser, is working "hand in glove" with Treasury officials. He is a former boss of the Taxpayers' Alliance pressure group and a longstanding advocate of massive tax cuts, who has gone into government after a decade in the corporate world.

Similar harmony is claimed in the government's work with Buckingham Palace on the Queen's funeral plans. However, there have been tensions behind the scenes. At the start of last week, political aides pressed for the information campaign to tell the public about help with the cost of living to start but this was blocked. A senior civil servant said: "Occasionally, ministers have said, 'Can I do this?', and been told the time isn't right. There was a discussion at the start of the week about whether it was necessary to inform people about the changes, since people are very concerned. The decision was taken to wait.'

There was then a sour note when Nadhim Zahawi and Michelle Donelan, the culture secretary, spoke to MPs about how they would get one ticket for themselves and four for guests to jump the queue to view the Queen's coffin in Westminster Hall. The call was hijacked by MPs complaining that they had not been given enough tickets.

The Tory MP Mark Francois is said to have moaned that he had to make an "acid choice" between taking his researchers or his relatives and that, consequently, his staff would miss out. Labour's Chi Onwurah asked whether her constituents would be able to tell whether she had jumped the queue, according to two sources on the call. One surprised Tory revealed: "Frankly the only person talking any sense was Diane Abbott, who said MPs should not have the right to queue-jump at all."

Harmony was undermined further when news stories emerged about Truss's plans to lift the ban on fracking and Kwarteng's resolve to scrap the cap on bankers' bonuses. This caused irritation in Buckingham Palace because political activity was supposed to halt for the

# Growth or

# **Ed Conway**

# Pour enough concrete, let in enough migrants and it's boom time. Easy (just don't tell the voters)



he new chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, has declared that he wants to boost economic growth from the present underlying rate of just under 1.5 per cent to 2.5 per cent or higher. All right, then: here are three quick suggestions.

Let's start by building a lot more housing: hundreds of thousands — no, millions of homes. And let's make sure we build them not off in the distant commuter belt but in the cities where house prices are especially eye-watering: right in the middle of London and Oxford. And if this new housing policy means tearing down old Edwardian stock and concreting over patches of the green belt, well ... so be it.

And since economic growth is really just a form of energy conversion, let's make energy abundant. Let's build a fleet of nuclear power stations: some enormous ones next to the sea and tens or maybe hundreds of smaller modular reactors to power towns. And, given it would be foolhardy to put all our eggs into one basket, let's put up loads more wind turbines too.

And if all that fails, we could always fall back on a kind of economic cheat code we've deployed more than a few times in recent decades: let more people into the country. Increase the population by 10 per cent and, lo and behold, our

national income should rise by more or less the same amount. Sure, technically we're not getting any richer, but there's no denying the arithmetical elegance of this solution: struggling to increase the national income? Just enlarge the nation.

And if none of those whets your appetite, there are any number of other options. Given we have a skills deficit, we could throw more money at further education. How about introducing universal childcare so parents can get back to work sooner? Why not abolish corporation tax altogether, or at the very least introduce 100 per cent deductions for business investment?

By now you've probably guessed that I'm only being half serious here. No one seriously expects the government to tear up the green belt or abolish one of its most lucrative taxes. But if you're after some "pro-growth" solutions from the left and the right, here they are.

Not very appetised? This brings us to the great paradox. There's a lazy assumption that everyone loves economic growth. And there's a strong logic to this: stronger growth is good news in all sorts of respects. All being well, it should lift all boats, making everyone better off, diminishing the national debt (since we have more income with which to pay it off) and making expensive public services such as the NHS somewhat more affordship with the traction of the strength of

For many people the answer is: quite a lot, actually. One person's growth is another person's congestion. While a young person might see a new factory or apartment block and think "opportunity", a pensioner might just see a lot of noise and disruption. They might see it as yet another thing that would push up prices and cause them more economic harm than good, and they would have a point: from their perspective, at least, it

probably would.

Which raises a rather important point: since governments are answerable to their citizens, and since those citizens don't always like certain forms of economic growth, quite a lot of what passes for policy these days is indeed "antigrowth".

Most of what constitutes the planning system is anti-growth, by design. Nearly every variant of Brexit is anti-growth. Rules that constrain migration, food safety regulations and speed limits — all anti-growth. If governments are anti-growth, it is because, well, that's what the voters want.

Which raises a question: is this government really "unashamedly pro-growth", as Kwarteng said recently? Is he really prepared to tear down every stifling regulation, even if that alienates his electoral base, or is he up to something else?

Would he prefer instead to fiddle around with the tax system, cutting con-

Money is leaving the country

straints on business investment, abolishing the cap on bankers' bonuses and ditching other onerous European schemes such as Solvency II, a complicated set of rules that forces asset managers to set aside more money on their balance sheets rather than invest it?

Does pro-growth really just mean borrowing a little more and spending a little less time going on about levelling-up and redistribution?

It certainly sounds that way. Their problem, however, is that what passed for levelling-up had all sorts of progrowth potential. Nor is there much evidence that redistribution tempers growth; indeed, many of the world's most equal countries – Norway, Belgium and Denmark among them – have some of the world's highest economic productivity rates.

Now it's quite conceivable that by cutting a few taxes, the government could indeed boost business investment, in which the UK lags behind most other

industrialised economies.

It's certainly plausible that Kwarteng makes a better fist of this than Rishi Sunak, whose most famous business-friendly policy, the super-deduction, was really just a cleverly branded scheme to prevent companies from holding off on their investment as his big tax rise

approached.
Few aims are more pro-growth than

encouraging businesses to invest more in this country. Yet those kinds of corporate and capital decisions depend on all sorts of thing: everything from political stability and demographics to skills levels and, yes, the tax system.

Being pro-growth doesn't just mean burning a few regulations; it means pondering all the reasons people might be putting their money elsewhere. And it so happens we're at one of those moments when precisely that is happening. Money is leaving the country: last week the pound dropped to its lowest level against the dollar since 1985.

Teasing out explanations for this are tricky, but it's notable that the cost of insuring the UK against sovereign default, which earlier this summer was the lowest among the group of seven industrialised economies, has risen to the third-highest. Investors – those very people we rely on to seed our future growth – are heading in the opposite direction.

It is still early days in the Truss era. There is no shortage of "unashamedly pro-growth" policies for Kwarteng to choose from. There are opportunities aplenty for anyone with the stomach to take on vested interests. But is that really what he wants?

Ed Conway is economics editor of Sky News

period of national mourning. A Whitehall official revealed that Simon Case, the cabinet secretary, has twice been questioned privately by courtiers and is understood to have blamed overzealous special

The second time concerned a meeting Charles had about the situation in Northern Ireland. "Political advisers tried to block the other party representatives from going to it," a Whitehall source said. "The Palace found out and put a stop to that. They told Case to get a grip on the spads like Jeremy Heywood used to. It's

A source close to the royal household said: "Downing Street is not supposed to be doing anything. Everyone who works with Charles knows he has temper tantrums about things like this."

The leak of the plan to end the cap on bankers' bonuses also left Mark Fullbrook, the chief of staff, furious since it created toxic headlines for the government when it could not respond actively. He has already ordered two leak inquiries. "Do you think the first thing that was supposed to come out about this business package was bankers' bonuses?" a Whitehall source said. "That was a complete

That said, Truss and Kwarteng are determined to proceed with ending the cap whatever the political drawbacks. "They both think it's a shit policy that should never have been introduced," said a senior source. "At the end of the week no one is going to be in any doubt about where Liz is coming from ideologically."

Truss's other main task for the week is to set out her position on foreign policy. On Monday she will fly to New York for the United Nations general assembly. She will make a speech calling on the West to

Kwasi Kwarteng

remain supportive of Ukraine and work much harder to develop energy security so countries are not dependent on authoritarian states.

"She will draw a clear link between geopolitics and the domestic economy (in particular energy prices), and why reducing the free world's dependence on malign actors has a direct impact on the cost of living and success of our economy here at home," a source said.

The PM will also "set the scene for the fiscal event – arguing economic growth is key to Britain and the free world's ability to win this new era of competition with authoritarians"

Before that, this weekend, she will meet world leaders, including the Irish prime minister Micheál Martin, at Chevening. She will also see Joe Biden in New York on Wednesday.

russ is expected to tell Martin that she intends to unilaterally continue the grace periods in the Northern Ireland protocol, which have so far prevented full checks on goods travelling between Britain and Northern Ireland, but seek to find a constructive way forward. "No 10 is focused on the minibudget, slimming the state and the Northern Ireland protocol," said a senior Tory, "because the Americans have told them to sort that out before there can be a trade

When she sees Biden, Truss will push for further access to US energy, buying cheap fracked gas to boost British supplies. Senior figures say the Northern Ireland problem is not as difficult with the US as some have claimed. "There are a lot of people around Biden who think it is toxic and raise it all the time," a well-placed official said. "But he waves them away and



Jacob Rees-Mogg



more spin doctors



**Diane Abbott** 



mustn't skip vigil

seems to want to focus on a positive relationship." Thérèse Coffey's health announcement on Thursday will expand on her mantra that the NHS should deliver on an ABCD pledge to improve problem areas (ambulances, backlog, care, doctors and dentists). She has had a bumpy start after health service officials were sent a memo denounced as "patronising" that urged them to "be positive" and avoid the use of the "Oxford comma".

But officials stress the government is much more serious than it was under Boris Johnson. This extends to the dress code, where men have been urged to wear ties in No 10. Aides apparently born in jeans have had to awkwardly don ties in Truss's presence, before quietly removing them at their desks.

For all this, veteran Whitehall hands detect a control freakery over information that could cause trouble for a prime minister who won the support of less than a sixth of Tory MPs in the first ballot of the leadership election.

The leak inquiries have caused both consternation and hilarity, since Truss herself was named as the worst cabinet leaker in a list drawn up by Theresa May's senior aides. "She was investigated at least three times," said a former No 10 aide under Johnson, "and found guilty at least once. I remember her sheepishly going in for a dressing down by Boris."

Truss is still trying to operate without a full ministerial team. Appointments of junior ministers stalled after the Queen's death and ministers of state in several departments have not been assigned their portfolios because cabinet ministers don't know who else is in their teams. Meetings with businesses have been scrapped. "Meetings are being cancelled because there isn't a minister," a business group source said.

Nonetheless, in the same way as the commemorations for the Queen have forced the country to consider who we are, the next week in politics will set up a key choice about how we want to be governed. Truss will offer a robust, boosterish style and a bold gamble that she can turn around the nation's finances by boosting GDP.

Next Sunday, it will be the turn of Sir Keir Starmer, the Labour leader, who will use an interview with the BBC's Laura Kuenssberg to say he would also launch a dash for growth, but that the way the pie is distributed is also important. Aides say his party confer-

ence message will echo a speech he made in Gateshead in July in which he said: "The most important goal of my Labour government will be to grow the economy." But "we will not accept growth that doesn't improve people's lives" Politically, Truss is going for broke.

If she is right, she will be hailed as a new Thatcher. But if she's wrong it is the country that will be broke, and along with it any chance the Conservatives have of retaining power in 2024.

Robert Colvile, Comment, page 28

# Britain's inflation divide: how the cost of living crisis changes from town to town

**Louise Eccles** Consumer Affairs Editor

From Madama Butterfly at the Royal Opera House to Gary Barlow's one-man show, West End theatres will be packed this weekend by audiences paying up to £200 a seat, seemingly undaunted by the rising cost of living.

The Society of London Theatre, which represents venues from the London Palladium to Shakespeare's Globe, said attendance was back to pre-pandemic levels and, in some weeks, even higher than 2019, as people sought a "welcome escape during these difficult times".

Theatres elsewhere in the country are seeing no such boom. Michael Berry, chairman of Blackburn Empire Theatre, said numbers were affected by higher household bills and that several shows, including The Ballroom Boys and a children's Hansel and Gretel play, had been cancelled due to poor ticket sales.

"Previously, our customers would happily book months in advance but now, increasingly, they are leaving it until the very last minute," he said. "We have seen an increase in the number of shows that we have had to cancel or postpone due to this reticence.

This stark difference is a sign of what the Centre For Cities, a think tank, has called a "clear north-south divide in how the cost of living crisis is playing out". Its figures show that the impact of rising energy, grocery and fuel bills is not being felt equally across Despite inflation being at

an almost 40-year high, and the Bank of England forecasting a recession this year, restaurants, cinemas and theatres are still prospering in the most affluent areas.

Deloitte said that for the wealthy, "savings accumulated during the

pandemic, rising house prices and borrowing power have provided a cushion against inflation that lower

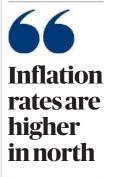
earners do not have". The Centre for Cities said inflation varied significantly depending on where people lived in the country due to factors such as how energy efficient housing in the area was and reliance on cars.

In Burnley, Lancashire, a higher proportion of older housing combined with less disposable income to afford upgrades to insulation, windows or boilers, meant that people were disproportionately hit by high energy bills. Poor public transport means residents are more affected by higher

petrol and diesel prices. The think tank said Burnley's inflation rate was therefore 11.2 per cent, compared with the consumer prices index's official UK figure of 9.9 per cent. It said London, where spending is much lower on petrol and houses are more efficient, had a rate of 8.7 per cent.

Blackpool, Glasgow, Blackburn and Bradford are also disproportionately hit by rising costs, while Cambridge, Oxford, Milton Keynes and Reading are said to be faring better.

Andrew Carter, chief executive of the think tank, said: "Our work shows there's definitely a geography of the cost of living crisis. Crudely, those places with higher inflation rates tend to be in



the north and those with the lowest inflation rates, although not exclusively, are in the south."

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In the village of Shinfield in Berkshire, Peter Newman, who owns the fine-dining restaurant L'Ortolan, said he had not noticed a downturn in bookings. The restaurant offers a ten-course tasting menu at the chef's table including champagne and wine for £255 per head. "We don't normally suffer too much during a recession," he said. "The only time it did was when the stock market crashed a few years ago and I think people were worried about their stocks."

In Bath, David Maxwell, who owns an eponymous salon where haircuts cost up to £93, believes his customers will continue to visit regularly. "It is quite an affluent area and paying an extra £2,000 on their utilities won't make a whole lot of difference to most people in this town," he said.

A report by Retail **Economics and Grant** Thornton found 48 per cent of people in the northeast said their finances were "stretched" compared with a UK average of 40 per cent, 39 per cent in London and 34 per cent in the southeast. It found that 64 per cent of the least affluent households in the country had noticed higher inflation of staple goods compared with 47 per cent of the most affluent.

Even in London's theatre district, venues are not immune to the challenges of the cost of living crisis. The Royal Opera House, where tickets to watch Madama Butterfly sell for as much as £218, said the economic climate remained "incredibly difficult". A spokesman said: "Ticket sales are improving on last year, but we are not yet back to pre-Covid levels. We expect further challenges ahead." For now, though, the show must go on. @louise\_eccles



# Firms are thrown a lifeline with cap on energy costs

**Harry Yorke Deputy Political Editor** 

Businesses will be thrown a lifeline this week as ministers prepare to introduce an "effective" cap on their electricity and gas costs.

Iacob Rees-Mogg, the business secretary, is expected to set out a support package on Wednesday that will bring in an energy price cap for consumers of £2,500. The cap had been due to rise from £1,971 a year to £3,549 on October 1.

According to Whitehall insiders, Rees-Mogg will confirm that businesses which are not protected by the price cap – will also be shielded through an accord between the government and energy suppliers.

While the business scheme is still being finalised, it is expected to mirror the consumer energy price guarantee by fixing the price that businesses pay for a unit of energy. The government will provide a subsidy to the suppliers covering the price

difference. Liz Truss announced this month that businesses would get "equivalent" support to

consumers. A source said that primary legislation would be required to implement the business package, with ministers expected to introduce it

when parliament returns after the party conference recess next month.

There is growing optimism in Whitehall that the package, which some economists have predicted could cost £150 billion, will be cheaper, after wholesale gas prices fell.

Business leaders have warned that thousands of small companies could fold without government intervention. From next month many are due to begin negotiating new contracts with suppliers and are facing sixfold increases in costs.

Industry figures are concerned, however, that the requirement for the government to legislate means that the package may not be ready to implement until November. By this point, businesses may have already had to sign new contracts.

Kwasi Kwarteng, the chancellor, yesterday held talks with banks and Andrew Bailey, the Bank of England governor, to discuss a bailout for energy companies.

The bailout, known as the **Energy Markets Financing** Scheme, will involve lending money to suppliers struggling to meet the costs of purchasing energy. The Treasury said it would be available as a "last resort".

Centrica wants output to soar, Business, page 1



cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature

# **Rod Liddle**

# I'm afraid our new King Snarls is going to set anti-monarchist tails wagging



think I am going to enjoy the
Carolean era very much indeed, if
our new King continues his
tendency to display a kind of
psychotic tetchiness when
outwitted by an inanimate object.
Twice this has happened inside one
week. I can't remember his mum
losing her rag once in 70 years.

Our new monarch first became irate when an inkwell or something was in his way and bared his teeth at a terrified, scampering flunky. Then he became unaccountably furious with a pen when trying to sign a book and stamped off to have a bit of a strop before Camilla calmed him down. He bared his teeth again. I like the teeth-baring bit. I think he should accompany it with a guttural howl, though, to maximise the effect.

So far, Charles has directed his wrath

largely at flunkies, much as he was reported to have done – perhaps apocryphally – when his boiled egg wasn't cooked to precisely the right consistency. It is surely only a matter of time, though, before he starts baring his teeth at foreign heads of state when they get his goat. A quick snarl at Xi Jinping and we'll all be glowing like Belisha beacons by the end of the week.

The newspaper headlines suggested that the Queen's funeral might "unite the world". Well, by the same token, it might well not. Not if our monarch lapses into one of his werewolf moods when faced with a recalcitrant Bic. It all makes me wonder if, when he held important conversations with geraniums, he on occasion became extremely arsey with them, berating them for their shortcomings as plants and making them feel really bad about themselves.

I am aware that this is a man who is grieving the loss of his mum, under a lot of stress and that we should cut him a little slack. In fairness, the speeches he has made so far have been considered, eloquent and dignified. Perhaps we should not hold him to the

extraordinarily high standards exemplified by his mother, who had an ability to remain calm and cheerful even when sweating, semi-naked performers were doing the most louche and despicable dances right in front of her.

The King has also let it be known that he will not be poking his oar into things he did poke his oar into when he was merely the Prince of Wales. These subjects include a mania for organic gardening, a predilection for naff repro mock Georgian architecture and an abiding conviction that homeopathy is a rigorous scientific discipline of sadly unrecognised value to humankind. He will remain mute on this stuff, we are told. But I will still have the worry, when he is out and about being a king and



with them

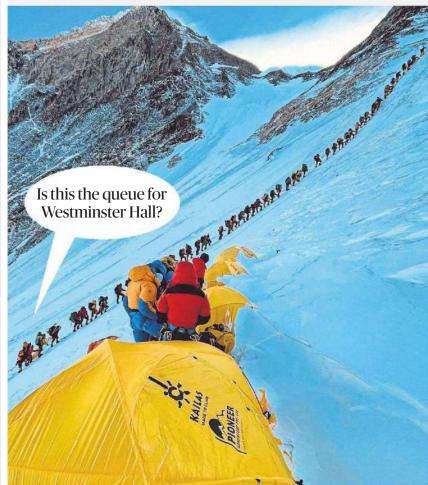
stuff, that this is a man who thinks that imbibing a concoction so diluted that nothing whatsoever remains of its effective ingredient will quickly sort out the tumour sticking out of your neck. I'm not saying that believing this tripe makes him unfit to be King, just that it, you know, worries me a little.

I am not reading the room terribly well, I know. Charles acceded to the throne, the power thrust upon him 30 years too late by his reckoning, with all of our good wishes - mine included. The queues to view the Queen lying in state are a testament to the support which the monarchy – an anachronism, of course, even if it is an agreeable one – still enjoys among a majority of the British population, even in Scotland (which handled the first stage of the late Queen's journey to Westminster Abbey superbly). But I do wonder to what degree our support for the monarchy was predicated upon an entirely justified admiration for our Queen, rather than on a considered and rational appreciation of the institution itself.

This last week has shown our country at its best and its worst: the pageantry and the dignity on the one hand, the bizarre persecutions of republicans on the other. Having one or two doubts about the efficacy and moral rectitude of an hereditary monarchy is a perfectly respectable position to take and shouldn't result in those who express those views volubly being locked up by the Old Bill, even if it was perhaps insensitive to raise those issues right now.

The point being that I suspect they will be raised with a degree more vehemence – both here and in those countries which still, just about, have our monarch as their titular head of state – as Queen Elizabeth II becomes only a rather wonderful, almost miraculous, memory; and instead there is somebody else sitting on our throne, a person who gets very cross with pens.

# Public pay their respects



PHOTOBUBBLE BY NICK NEWMAN

 Hasta la vista, baby? Boris Johnson's triumphant return as prime minister is almost certain to happen, because Jemima Packington, also known as "Mystic Veg", has foreseen the event.

Jemima is the world's only "asparamancer". She predicts events in the future by throwing large quantities of asparagus into the air and watching how the spears land. She claims to have predicted both

Brexit and the sad death of our Queen and now has said Boris is on his way back as our leader. I have verified her prediction with

some courgettes, incidentally.

# No teasing, class it's Liz's turn to talk

Do you remember from your early schooldays those times when the entire class took it in turns to read from a book? And everyone waited nervously for the book to reach the, er, differently abled pupil who always took half an hour to read one short sentence, grunting and sweating with exertion?

That cringing anxiety is exactly how I feel when I'm waiting for Liz Truss to make a speech. She sounds like someone in the early part of an English as a foreign language course.

She can be trained to improve her delivery, of course — Margaret Thatcher sounded like a fishwife on acid before the PR monkeys got hold of her. But what Liz actually says isn't very inspiring either

Oh, you demented Tories. What have ou done?

# Easy-peasy queasy: ads to make us ill

My wife bought some almond and hazelnut granola made by a company called Rude Health. On the front of the box it informed me that the product was, surprisingly, "plant-based".

On one side of the box it said: "You're in rude health when you snack out of the salad crisper. You ferment. You have plasters on your knees." On the back it said: "We like to sprinkle granola over a bowl of yoghurt and fresh strawberries for an easy-peasy no-nonsense start to the day."

Easy-peasy indeed. Is this the first instance of a food product making you vomit before you've eaten it? Preferably all over the smirking, patronising, halfwit who wrote that drivel.



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# A 93-year-old died after he was pepper-sprayed, hit with a baton and tasered in a care home—then it was covered up

The treatment by police of a one-legged dementia sufferer, who waved a knife at staff, raises troubling questions about how we care for the most vulnerable

**MEGAN AGNEW** 



Donald Burgess was a country lad. He lived near Battle, East Sussex, all his life and worked as a carpenter at a family-run builders' merchant. He was a charmer, wangling a free lunch and a cup of tea wherever he worked, and a skilled tradesman, well-regarded by his peers and the apprentices he brought on. He built his own conservatory and read yesterday's newspaper, the day after his wife, being too frugal to buy two copies.

After the death of his wife, a dementia diagnosis and a leg amputation due to diabetes, he moved into Park Beck care home in St Leonards-on-Sea.

At 93 years old, confined to a wheelchair and living alone in the home, he was tasered by his local police force. He died three weeks later.

On June 21, he had managed to get hold of a knife and threatened staff, who detained him in his room and called the police. When officers arrived they had a short conversation with him, after which one deployed Pava spray, a sensory irritant that causes a burning sensation in the nose, throat and skin, similar to pepper spray, and used a baton. The second officer used a Taser. Burgess was handcuffed, arrested and put in the back of a police vehicle.

On arrival at the station, according to his family, the custody sergeant recommended that he be taken to hospital immediately. That same day, the care home refused to have him back, technically making him homeless. He remained in hospital and died on July 13. The cause of death is still unknown.

The Sunday Times has been investigating how a vulnerable man in his 90s, who was in a place that should have been equipped to care for him, came to die in such circumstances. However, the public agencies involved in the case repeatedly obstructed our efforts.

Though there are no legal reporting restrictions, Sussex Police and the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC), which is investigating whether the officers used excessive force, which may amount to criminal manslaughter, refused to identify the care home.

It was finally established using local crime records and sources to narrow down a list of 41 Care Quality Commission-registered care homes in St Leonards-on-Sea.

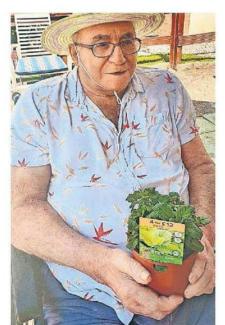
Park Beck looks after some of the most vulnerable people in society. Some residents' places are publicly funded. Yet this home was given anonymity by the police – a highly unusual measure at a possible crime scene when the suspects are being investigated for manslaughter.

Until now, it has been excluded from the proper scrutiny that ensures that mistakes are not repeated and that our old, frail and disabled citizens are cared for and safeguarded.

Deborah Coles, director of the charity Inquest, which is supporting the Burgess family, said: "The circumstances of Donald's death are deeply disturbing. It is almost unconscionable to think of a highly vulnerable elderly man with dementia in a care home being subjected to such extreme force at the hands of the police. We must see intense scrutiny of this case and justice for the family."

It also raises questions about whether our care system is properly staffed and funded to keep dementia sufferers safe.

There were few people to look after Burgess towards the end of his life, and few people to remember him in his



**Donald Burgess lived at Park Beck** care home in St Leonards. East Sussex



death. His employer no longer exists, his local pub has closed down, nearly all of his friends have died and his neighbours have changed almost entirely since he moved in 50 years ago.

Burgess is one of the many silent elderly who can easily die alone, the responsibility of a sector experiencing one of its biggest workforce crises in history.

He was born in Hastings in 1929 and grew up in a terraced house just back from the beachfront. Ethel Barker was born eight years later, the daughter of a poultry farmer, and lived three miles away. They met and married in 1955.

Burgess was posted to Cornwall and Egypt for National Service, while Ethel worked at the bakery in Sedlescombe.

In 1970, the Burgesses moved to a newly-built council housing estate a few miles down the road. They lived quietly, without children, walking their dogs. They socialised locally until Ethel was diagnosed with cancer and died in 2015.

Burgess suffered from dementia, which steadily worsened. He lived alone, helped by neighbours and visited by carers. In 2018, shortly after an operation to amputate his leg, he was admitted to a care home. He lived in Park Beck home when the knife incident occurred.

The home is registered to care for people with dementia and specialises in care for Alzheimer's. Average prices are £408-£650 per week, equivalent to £21,200-£33,800 per year.

It is owned by Regal Care Trading, which has 17 homes. The company's 2021 strategic report read: "Due to the cost reduction strategy adopted by the company, operating profits have increased from £648,000 in 2020 to £1.1 million in the current year." That year, the company had a turnover of £15.7 million. Nicholas James Care Homes (11 homes, £11.1 million turnover in 2020-21) is registered to the same directors at the same

address, as well as two care staff and services companies, Bureaucom Ltd (£1.7 million total equity in 2020-21) and Uniquehelp Ltd (£3.9 million turnover in

The company refused to comment "as this is an ongoing police investigation". The Care Quality Commission, which regulates the sector, is not investigating the home. A spokesman said: "CQC is aware of this incident and will remain in contact with the home as the police investigation continues.'

Caroline Abrahams, Age UK's director, said there is a national shortage of good residential care placements for people living with dementia. "This reflects our failure to adapt quickly enough to the growing prevalence of dementia in our society," she said.

Earlier this year it was found that one in five care homes specialising in dementia were rated "inadequate" or "requires improvement" by the CQC.

"This tragic case raises so many questions about how people living with dementia are treated by services designed to protect them," said Helen Wildbore, director of the Relatives and Residents Association, which supports older people needing care and their families. "Sadly, our helpline hears too often that without this, fundamental rights are breached."

A relative of Burgess's said: "We think that there should be more training in care homes for staff and the police need more experience on how to deal with vulnera-

ble people with dementia in care homes," Bexhill and Battle, Burgess's constituency, has the second highest number of people living with dementia in the UK:

2,413. The national average is 1,302. There are few pharmacological interventions, which makes effective care

even more important. As a person's dementia progresses, they may sometimes behave in ways that are physically or verbally aggressive, say Alzheimer's Society guidelines. "People with dementia can find it hard to understand what's going on around them. This can be confusing and frightening."

They often have flashbacks, said Beth Britton, a consultant for care homes particularly those who, like Burgess, served in the military. "That is why understanding individual people's life stories and their background is so important - staff must learn how to de-escalate and soothe them."

The IOPC is investigating the police officers' use of force and both have been served gross misconduct notices. National guidelines require the use of Tasers to be "necessary, fully justifiable and proportionate to the threat faced". The officers are on restricted duties, in roles that are not public facing, their suspension status kept under review.

"We are treating this matter seriously, which is evident by the fact that criminal and gross misconduct notices have been served on the two officers," said the IOPC. "Our investigation, which remains ongoing, includes looking into the aftercare offered to Mr Burgess as well as the force used by the officers. We've chosen not to identify the care home involved out of consideration for the privacy of the other residents."

A spokesman from Sussex Police said: "This incident is subject to a full investigation and any further disclosure may jeopardise the IOPC investigation into both criminal and misconduct matters."

A post-mortem examination has been carried out but the results of further cardio-pathology examinations are yet to be released. "We are still grieving," said the family member. "We hope his friends and neighbours remember Don in their own way and think of all the good times.' @MeganAgnew

# World's drug firms optimistic about Alzheimer's breakthrough



There is a slightly grim joke that does the rounds among dementia specialists. "I've been in this field for 30 years," said Robert Howard, professor of old age psychiatry at University College London. "And during those 30 years we've always been five years away from a life-changing treatment."

Unlike cancer, HIV, or even Covid-19, there is – still – no drug a patient can take which will slow the underlying cause of the disease. Pharmaceutical companies have spent decades and billions of pounds trying to crack the problem, but trial after trial has failed.

Now, though, the more optimistic scientists believe we are close to a breakthrough. In the next few months three big drug companies are set to reveal the trial results of drugs they hope will slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease, the most common cause of dementia. Results for lecanemab, made by Eisai and Biogen, are expected by the end of this month; gantenerumab, made by Roche, in November; and donanemab, made by Eli Lilly and Company, early next year. Each company has said that if their results are positive they will apply immediately for a licence from the Food and Drug Administration in the US and equivalent bodies in the

For the nearly one million people in the UK who have dementia there could finally be hope. "There has never been a more exciting time to be involved in dementia research," said Dr Richard Oakley, associate director of research at the Alzheimer's

UK and elsewhere.

Society. "The drugs coming through really look powerful." None of these drugs will be

a cure, he stressed, but if they work as well as preliminary studies suggest, and if given early enough in the course of the disease, they could slow its progression to give a patient an extra three years of high-quality life. And that, Oakley said, will only be the start. "Once we have showed you can slow it down, you can then look at those results and you can tailor a drug that works to improve it, and then you can start talking about combinations of treatments."

All three drugs are made from antibodies which are designed to clear the brain of amyloid, a toxic protein which for years has been thought to be the driving cause of Alzheimer's.

This, though, is a sticking point. Anti-amyloid drugs have been tried before. While they are very good at clearing amyloid, no trial has proved that doing so can slow down cognition decline. Critics believe that if these trials fail it will be the end of the road for the amyloid approach which has dominated the field since the 1990s.

Not everyone shares Oakley's optimism. "There is a clear indicator that somehow amyloid is involved in Alzheimer's," said Howard. "But it's not clear that the presence of amyloid in your brain drives the disease. It might be like a tombstone that happens at the end, where the amyloid is actually a protective protein that the brain produces to try and protect itself. We don't know, but removing amyloid doesn't seem to make any difference to the course of Alzheimer's disease."

There is a feeling among a small but growing group of scientists that pharmaceutical giants and big research institutions have wasted decades chasing the wrong target. However, the new trials are more precise than

those that have gone before, including ensuring that all participants have actually tested positive for amyloid. The drugs are given at an earlier stage, giving them a

greater chance of success. Oakley said: "These are very different drugs, targeting very different types of amyloid. If one doesn't work, you're targeting an entirely different stage of the process from the other drug. That's why it's really exciting that all of them are coming through in the next few months."

Mark Mintun, senior vicepresident at Lilly, said that his company's drug donanemab worked in a completely different way to the manufacturer's previous attempt, a drug called solanezumab. "Solanezumab binds to amyloid peptide the part that's floating around, the earliest form of amyloid."

Clearing the brain of amyloid before it can form plaques, the theory went, would give patients the best chance. Researchers now believe that process happens up to 20 years before symptoms appear. By the time the drug was being given it was far too late.

People in the UK suffer from dementia

How many years it can take for symptoms to develop

Now Lilly is taking a different approach. "At the opposite end of the spectrum is donanemab, which binds to amyloid plaques that are aggregated and deposited in the brain," said Mintun. "If the plaques are the key thing, then removing the plaques sounds like a really good idea."

All of this, of course, is theoretical. The only thing that matters is whether the treatments slow down the course of cognitive decline.

Dr Susan Kohlhaas, director of research at Alzheimer's Research UK, warns that expectations may be running too high. "We can't expect a first-generation drug to do everything we need it to do to cure the disease. We will need to build on the discoveries that are made."

She said any breakthrough that results in the world's first disease-modifying dementia treatment would have an impact far beyond patients. "A positive result will be incredible," she said. A bit of hope might mean that many people concerned that they had early dementia, but who did nothing because there was no treatment, sought help, she added.

And if the drugs fail? It will be a setback, certainly. But scientists have learnt from the failures of the past. They are looking into a much broader variety of treatment approaches with gene therapy, DNA repair, neuroinflammation and vascular therapies all promising fields. Some 143 treatments are in phase three trials – the final stage before approval can be sought.

Even Howard, who is convinced the amyloid treatments will fail, is hopeful a cure is on the horizon. "If you just look at the history of medicine, it doesn't move forward in a steady way; sometimes we make discoveries by accident.We will find something. We just have to keep on looking.'

THE SUNDAY TIMES WINE CLUB

WINE OF THE MONTH by Will Lyons



Will Lyons, Club Vice-President



coloured wine, as the evenings draw in, a nip enters the air and thoughts turn to cosy evenings, slightly heavier food and warming reds. Down in the middle of Italy on the Adriatic coast, in the hills of Abruzzo, Ludovica Crugnale makes just the sort of sort of luscious, silky wine that slips down with the heavier dishes we favour now. A vivid purple colour, it has attractive notes of sweet red cherry, violets and a silky, sweet spice finish. An amiable companion to an autumnal feast.

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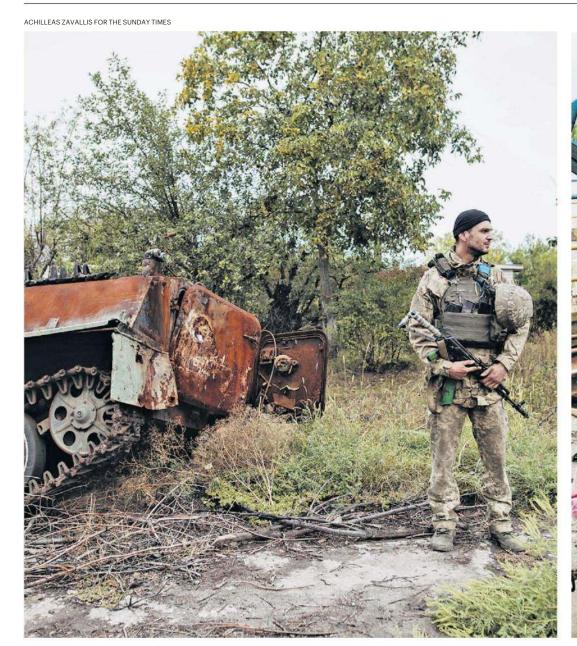


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# WORLD NEWS





# Russians retreating—but not everyone wants to be liberated

Western firepower broke the myth of the invaders' invincibility. But the picture on the ground remains complicated

# CALLAGHAN



in Staryi Saltiv, Ukraine

he Ukrainian special forces soldier stood alone on the ruined bridge, looking out through the drizzle over the Siverskyi Donets river. A week ago Russian soldiers had controlled the opposite bank, firing on Ukrainian troops from the abandoned holiday camps and forests that line the

Now, after a lightning advance that won Ukraine back more than 1,000 square miles of territory in the northeast, it was deathly quiet but for the boom of shelling by the Russian border, 11 miles

being invincible," said the soldier, who gave his name only as Alex. "And, I mean, we're good fighters, but we did it because of the weapons we got from the West. The

targeting was so accurate. The Russian soldiers left everything when they ran."

For mile after mile behind him the land was almost deserted. Heavily mined roads strewn with discarded Russian uniforms and military equipment sliced between fields studded with the white tail ends of rockets. The stink of decomposing bodies lay thick in the air.

Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine with the aim of taking control of an upstart former Soviet dominion, and of showing its power and military might to the world. Instead, seven months into the war, they have been pushed back from the gates of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second city, towards their own border.

Their failure is written in every Russian camouflage jacket that lies by the roadside, in the twisted remains of burnt out armoured vehicles painted with the letter Z – the symbol of what Putin calls the "special operation" – and in the new quiet that has stolen over golden autumn evenings in Kharkiv itself after half a year of bombardment.

Across the reclaimed territories, civilians are emerging from the occupation with stories of brutality and repression. Last week Ukrainian officials announced that 445 bodies, some of them civilians, some military, had been found buried in a forest near the city of Izyum, which was reclaimed by Kyiv's forces last week.

Ukrainian soldiers, eyes puffy with exhaustion, tell of being pounced on by jubilant locals as they liberated towns and cities, offered pancakes and brandy and woman they saw.

It is not the whole story, though. While many welcomed the Ukrainian soldiers. others were sorry to see the Russians go. Those who were most devoted to the Kremlin's worldview left with the occupying forces, returning with them to Russia. Others stayed, disappointed with the Ukrainian advance but unwilling to leave.

"Honestly, it was 50-50," said Alex, the special forces soldier by the bridge. "Some cheered, but some people were not happy to see us. They said, 'why did you come?' They still support Russia. They're brainwashed by their propa-

As he spoke, a young woman with pink lipstick landed on the riverbank in a boat rowed by two drunk fisherman. They were ferrying people from the recently deoccupied territories across the river, since the bridge was still in ruins after being blown apart a month ago. Tatiana Velenteenko, an 18-year-old medical student, had left her home in Vovchyansk, by

the Russian border, that morning, and was heading for the relative safety of Kharkiv, 40 miles away, after living under Russian occupation for half a year. "Some people collaborated with them," she said. "They were giving co-ordinates of Ukrainpositions in return for doing business with the Russians. But those people all left to Russia when the Ukrainians came.'

The Ukrainian troops are taking no chances with civilians who stayed behind. Rumours abound of Russian soldiers who stripped off their uniform or put on civilian clothes during the hurried retreat, and melted into the local population.

To complicate matters further, some of the soldiers fighting for Russia in these areas were from the so-called Donetsk People's Republic, and hold Ukrainian passports. "They think they can blend in, and it's very hard to tell them apart sometimes," said a soldier stationed to the north of Kharkiv, who did not want to give his name. "We caught one from the DPR at a checkpoint, and he's with the intelligence now.'

Before leaving the liberated territories, each civilian is checked by Ukrainian security forces in a filtration process that, depending on the area, can take minutes

In a bombed-out village ten miles from

the Russian border Nina, 77, wept as she tried to flag down a car to take her to Kharkiv. The Russians had been pushed out of the area a week earlier, and she needed to buy medicine and food, she said, for herself, her son and their two dogs. "The occupation was terrible, wouldn't have wished it on my worst enemy," she sobbed hysterically. "We were so scared, and we were so happy when the Ukrainians came, you can't imagine. But now I need blood pressure medicine; I need to go."

We gave her a lift towards Kharkiv. Yet as we approached a checkpoint on the city outskirts, police ordered her out of the car. Nearby, an unkempt man was crouched on the ground, his hands behind his back, as armed men questioned him. He wasn't allowed to pass. And neither was Nina. "You haven't been cleared," barked one officer. "You need permission to go. We've told you before. Don't try to trick us again." They said they had already given her food and medicine.

The area where she lived lies in the thin band between the city of Kharkiv - before the war, a thriving hub for students and IT companies – and the Russian border 20 miles to the north. Here, in what has become a buffer zone between the

# Some were not "We broke the myth of the Russians happy to see us

**Biden leads** 

charge to go

electric, but

petrolheads keep foot

on the gas

**Alistair Dawber** Detroit

Bob McLoughlin arrived in Ford Mustang, furry dice hanging from the rear-view mirror, just in time for the company's big announcement at the city's

motor show on Wednesday. He was there with the owners of scores of other historic Mustangs, some among the first to roll off the

production line in 1964. To much razzmatazz, the 2024 Mustang was unveiled. Some models will have a large 5.0-litre V8 engine. None will

"The infrastructure isn't there for electric cars," said McLoughlin, who had spent nine days driving almost 3,000 miles from his home in Oregon, part of a caravan Ford had organised. We drove from Portland to Las Vegas and Phoenix on the way here and there was not one sign for a charging station on the roads. Even when they are there, the charging stations are unreliable and

time-consuming. That's the mindset that the

White House is now seeking to change. President Biden was in Detroit on Wednesday too. He came to tell the petrolheads that the age of electric cars is upon us. The "great American road

trip is going to be fully electrified", he insisted. Biden, a self-declared "car

guy", announced the approval of the first \$900 million in a \$7.5 billion federal funding programme to build 500,000 charging stations across the country by 2030, part of a huge package of infrastructure measures

passed last autumn. "We're choosing to build a better America, an America that is confronting the climate crisis, with America's workers leading the way," Biden said.

Detroit is attracting much of the money being doled out to juice electric vehicle production. Ford, and the other car giants from Detroit, GM and Chrysler, build what makes them most money and with huge government subsidies for the electric car market – more than \$2 billion alone last year - all are

churning out more batterypowered vehicles. Even if people cannot charge them,

as McLoughlin argues. Ford sold almost 5,000 electric vehicles in June, second only to Tesla. But those are still a small fraction of its overall sales. Ford sold a total of about 916,000 vehicles in the first half of this year. Nationally only about 6 per cent of new car sales in

the US are electric. No city is more identified with motoring than Detroit, which grew rich after Henry Ford revolutionised production with the first vehicle assembly line at his Highland Park factory in the city. But the industry slumped under pressure from cheaper Asian imports and Detroit became a global symbol of urban collapse. In 2013, with debts of \$20 billion, Detroit declared bankruptcy, the biggest city collapse in US history. From there it began to rally,

investment and philanthropic "The city got pretty bad -

attracting billions of dollars in

federal assistance, private

we were one of the top murder cities of the world but it was actually on a big rebound, with lots of nice restaurants opening and young, professional people working tech, they were coming here," said Patrick Sheering, another Mustang enthusiast who lives in Detroit. "Then the pandemic hit and we had our second gut punch in the space of the



last decade or so." Detroit's population, spread across vast tracts of often abandoned, overgrown land, remains stuck at about 700,000 people, less than half the 1.8 million who lived in the city in 1950. The partial recovery of the past decade was concentrated in a small area. Some experts doubt that the electric vehicle drive can truly revive the whole of Detroit. They point out that the big car companies have started laying off workers at the city's conventional plants in anticipation of the electric

There's

nothing

left of

home

"Our research indicates that the transition to electric cars will take a lot longer than the government thinks," said Don Grimes, an economist at the University of Michigan. "We think it will take until 2050 for all vehicle sales in the US to be fully electric."

The government is aiming for 2035. "We just don't see the infrastructure being in place, and we don't see the

consumer demand for it." Unemployment in Detroit - at eight per cent – is still higher than most of the

country, and while electric car manufacturing will bring extra jobs, many of them skilled and well paid, the big car makers are going to need

fewer people overall. There is also the issue of just how practical an electric vehicle is in today's America. According to the International Energy Agency, the US lags behind the UK, and many other developed countries in the number of charging stations it has built. Electric cars may be fine for moving around cities, but in rural areas across most of the country anything other than petrol-powered cars is impractical for now.

Detroit has been surmounting long odds for decades now. For Elizabeth and Matthew, a young local couple enjoying a meal in one of the hip downtown bars, it was not about the reinvention of the city's heritage; they just hoped that the electric car revolution would be good for their hometown's future.

"Younger people don't really care what we used to do," Elizabeth said. "It's what comes next that counts."



Ukrainians and the Russians, there is little relief at the liberation. Almost everyone has fled, and only the bravest, or the most desperate, are venturing back to find out what remains of their homes.

"We came to see what there was, but there's nothing," said Nadia, who had come from Kharkiv, standing by the ruins of her holiday cottage. "It's destroyed, everything is destroyed.'

In the village of Rubizhne, eight miles from Russia, the silence is stifling and ghostly; the only sounds the creaking of bent metal sheeting in the wind, and the scrabbling of stray dogs. No residents remain. The Russians who had been squatting in their houses, littering the ground with human faeces and green cardboard ration packs, were gone, too.

They had left behind a nest of deadly traps. On the front gate of one house, a team of sappers had spraypainted the word "mines" in capital letters. "They're everywhere," said Vladimir, 43, their commander. "They put them on the roads, in the houses, wherever. Some are well hidden and some are more obvious,

so we have to look for them. Treading carefully, he walked back through the gate to show me the trip wire strung across the back garden. Even from a foot away, it took me a few seconds to see it in the gloom. On the road back towards Kharkiv, his team had been clearing armfuls of anti-tank mines, some of them daisy-chained together, that had been planted along the road. "The Russians used them for defences," said Vova, 24, another de-miner, "But it was only their front line of defence that was good. Behind that they were just drinking and not doing anything. So when our guys pushed through the first lines then they ran away. Some of them didn't even get in their vehicles, they ran on foot. They even left so much of their ammunition

The advance has slowed but is continuing. On Friday morning fighting raged in the frontline city of Kupyansk, a vital logistics hub 70 miles east of Kharkiv. Shells, ingoing and outgoing, exploded

every few minutes with a deafening crack

**Burnt-out Russian** military vehicles line the roads in newly liberated areas of Ukraine. A family reunites at the Siverskyi Donets river, bridge was blown up last month

no buses," said one older woman, who was holding her three-year-old granddaughter by the hand. A moment later, a shell screamed near by, and they shuffled

city, and locals were already adjusting to their new reality. Anya, a young blonde woman with dark eyebrows, had reopened the corner shop she ran with her family. The moment the liberating forces arrived in the area, she had swapped the prices on the cans of energy drink imported from Moscow and warm beer from Russian roubles to Ukrainian hryv-

suburb of northern Saltivka, however, the full impact of the advance was impossible attacked over the last six months, whole buildings blown to a blackened twisted mess of rebar and glass by the shells and rockets being launched by Russian troops

Now the evening air is quiet for the first time since February. While the Russians can still hit Kharkiv with missiles it is out of range of most of their guns, and there is, for the moment at least, less pressure on the city. For the civilians who stayed in Saltivka through the months of horror, it is a rare moment of release. As the sun began to set on Friday Rima, a 66-year-old woman with gold teeth, took a stroll with her friends through the communal garden between their homes. "It is so beautiful, we're not scared any more," she said. "Or at least, now I can sleep with only one eye open, not two. When the Russians are gone from Crimea, then we'll really celebrate."

@louiseelisabet Additional reporting: Viktoria Sybir

as Ukrainian and Russian forces fought over the city. Civilians, some weary, some openly terrified, dragged suitcases and plastic bags of belongings with them as they tried to find any way they could to leave. "We can't get out of here, there are

By that afternoon Ukrainians claimed to have pushed Russian forces out of the

For her it made little difference who was in charge. Back in Kharkiv, in the to ignore. The vast maze of Soviet-era apartment blocks had been relentlessly just a few miles away.

# It's fear and loathing in the Kremlin. Now Putin writhes in a trap of his own making

Mark Galeotti

Ukraine's recent dramatic successes are a challenge for Russia's generals. Even more serious is the challenge facing Vladimir Putin. A man who tends to balk at making tough decisions is confronted with unpalatable options, and seems not to know what to do.

## PUTIN'S HUMILIATION

Ukraine outfought and outthought the Russians on the Kharkiv front. Yet the eyecatching tales of troops fleeing, leaving plates of food behind, are not the whole story. While there was undoubtedly panic, a headlong retreat was sensible: it was that or be outflanked and likely captured. The real failure did not belong to the men on the ground, who in some places were outnumbered eight to one. It

was in Moscow that decisions were taken that left the front woefully undefended.

Given the degree to which he himself seems to have been directly involved in operational decision-making, something that the Kremlin's own propaganda machine has been hyping, this is very much Putin's defeat.

Tsar Nicholas II foolishly took on the mantle of commander-in-chief soon after the start of the First World War, thinking the glow of victories would rekindle his faded legitimacy. Instead, he became associated with defeat after defeat. Today, the eagerness with which Putin a man with no military experience beyond cursory reserve officer training at university - asserted himself as the architect of the invasion is coming back to haunt him too.

## **VULTURES CIRCLING**

spirited community of Russian ultra-hawks, especially within the social media "milblogger" (bloggers, often ex-military, focusing on the war) community. They have from the first been critical not of the war, but of what they with reason – see as its amateurish and incompetent prosecution. They are demanding everything from a purge of the high command (including the defence minister Sergei Shoigu) to mass mobilisation, even nuclear weapons.

But they have relatively little political traction. What is different now is the emergence of cautious criticism on state TV and in the political mainstream.

Ramzan Kadyrov, volatile despot of the Chechen

region, acknowledged that "it's a hell of a situation".

Last week the presidential spokesman Dmitry Peskov issued a scarcely veiled warning that "the line is very, very fine" and those who dared criticise the Kremlin "need to be careful here".

Russia's catastrophic performance in Ukraine has given critics and opportunists the chance to attack the government while wrapping themselves in the flag. Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov is essentially a Kremlin stooge, happy to play the role of the fake opposition. When he advocated "maximum mobilisation" for a "fullfledged war" last week, he may have been floating a trial balloon for the Kremlin, but he was also taking the chance to outflank it.

#### A JUMPY LEADER

Opportunists like Zyuganov will try to exploit moments of Kremlin weakness. He does not want to bring down the regime, but when it is weak, he knows it will have to offer him more perks and prestige to keep him loyal.

It is a stretch to see Putin yet facing an existential political challenge. There is no obvious focus for resistance, and too many within the elite have too much to lose to risk open opposition, especially as there is still no indication that Putin has lost the loyalty of the security forces.

However, it is worth wondering just how secure the leader himself feels. Peskov's recent statement suggests that the president and his circle are feeling jumpy and defensive.

In the words of one Russian political analyst with close contacts to Putin's administration: "At the best of times, he is never able to consider himself truly safe. He knows that the people who praise and serve him today could be the ones to turn on him tomorrow."

The recent funeral of Mikhail Gorbachev must have reminded him of how fast a leader can lose control of events, while the size of the crowds who mourned the reformist Soviet president demonstrated the large contingent of Russians who believe in a different vision for their country from the one that Putin is offering.

## NO EASY WAY OUT

If Putin is getting worried, his particular problem is that there are no good options left for him. This is precisely when, in the past, he has tended to be paralysed. He vacillated over how to deal

generals refuse to **follow** orders, where doesit end?

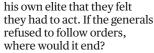
with mass street protests in 2012, and was equally indecisive in his response to the furore over the assassination of opposition leader Boris Nemtsov in 2015.

Does he now feel that to wrest back momentum he has to escalate? The campaign of strikes on Ukraine's power grid is a partial response, but it is eating through his dwindling stock of long-range precision missiles. Only 20 per cent of the Iskander missiles that have been the mainstay of this campaign reportedly remain.

If he declared a mobilisation tomorrow, it would probably take three months before the reservists, many unfit and unwilling, would be deployable - in time for winter, when any major military operations are barely feasible anyway. Such a move would also alarm a population that has been told everything is going to plan.

As for the much-feared threat of firing a tactical nuclear weapon, he could order a demonstrative strike in Arctic waters or hit an isolated target such as Snake Island, off Odesa, with the threat that he would then target Ukrainian cities. This would only be effective if he is genuinely willing to follow through, though. He must know that this would force the West to adopt a strategy of seeking to eliminate or unseat him. Even China and India would be angry (Putin acknowledged both countries' "concerns" about the war for the first time at a summit in Uzbekistan last week), and it could so alarm

**Vladimir Putin** addressed allies in Uzbekistan on Friday, but India and China are nervous



Nor is there any real scope for de-escalation. The Ukrainians are on a roll, and unwilling to make concessions. While Putin has some scope to redefine quite what "victory" means, even his most creative propagandists would be hardpressed to spin the loss of the Donbas, let alone Crimea, as anything more than a humiliating reverse.

## TRYING TO CLING ON

Putin can hammer Ukraine's infrastructure so long as he has the missiles. He can amp up the cyberattacks. He can try to recruit more soldiers. None of these will substantively change the situation on the ground. He can sack Shoigu and pillory scapegoats, but it is a little late to think this will have much effect on morale at home, let alone the war effort.

Putin has little choice but to hang on, hoping that somehow Ukraine's will breaks or, more likely, that the West's does. For now, this may seem the most rational option, certainly the safest. Yet it does nothing to assuage the hawks or the technocrats, nor does it offer ordinary Russians, who are just beginning to feel the pinch (the majority now have no savings at all) any real hope.

#### MEMORIES OF A TSAR Instead, there is a desperate

offer of bread and circuses. Last weekend's lavish public celebrations in Moscow to mark its founding saw 30,000 fireworks launched in an unconscious parody of war. The government is offering subsidies for businesses, pensions are being raised and civil servants are getting a 10 per cent pay increase.

All this is just a stopgap, though, and a pricy one. There seems to be no viable route out for Putin, and an awareness of that is growing, at least within the elite.

We may be some way from March 1917, when generals and grandees forced Tsar Nicholas II to abdicate, but a large part of the reason for that was their sense that the commander-in-chief had nothing to offer beyond a vain hope that "one more push" would somehow turn around a war Russia was evidently losing. One hundred and five years later, Putin seems able to offer nothing more himself.

Professor Mark Galeotti is the author of Putin's Wars: From Chechnya to Ukraine, to be published by Bloomsbury on November 10



# Gun-toting gangs in smalltown Sweden push voters to the right

## Peter Conradi Eskilstuna

Aydin Cetin stretched to point out a bullet hole in the façade of his take-away pizza joint. Then he bent down to show me another in the brickwork below and a third in the wall.

Seven shots were fired at a group of young customers as they were leaving one dark evening last February. When Cetin realised what was going on, he hurried them back inside - and may have saved their lives. The gunman's face was covered, but he looked like a teenager.

Shootings like this have become common in Arby, a collection of 1960s' tower blocks on the outskirts of Eskilstuna, a steel town of 70,000 people just under 70 miles west of Stockholm. Once known as the Sheffield of Sweden, it is now known for gang warfare. "This year it's got really bad. We've had 11 or 12 shootings here," said Cetin, 46, a Kurd who arrived in Sweden from Turkev in 1980 as a child. He would leave if he could sell his business. "They used to just hit each other or use knives. But now they have guns."

scared

now

Usually, the gunmen miss, but in May a man died after being shot in broad daylight as he crossed the road. Three weeks ago a woman and a boy aged five were hit by stray bullets in the playground behind Cetin's takeaway. Both survived.

As we spoke, Cetin spotted half a dozen young men in their late teens who had appeared outside. He called them over. "Do you want us to show you our weapons?" asked Gilera, 18, whose family came from Morocco. "We have guns: Zastava; Tokarev; Glocks. We get them from a guy who calls himself AK. He transports them here from Croatia.'

It was the backlash against gang violence – blamed largely on young men of

foreign origin - that powered the anti-immigrant Sweden Democrats to 20.5 per cent of the vote and second place in the general election last Sunday, prompting a wave of soul searching in this traditionally liberal country.

The centre-left Social Democrats still got the most votes of any party, with 30.3 per cent, as they have done in every election for more than a century. But the shift to the right prompted the resignation of Magdalena Andersson, the prime minister, and is likely to lead to the formation of a coalition under the centre-right Moderates. The Sweden Democrats, who have their roots in the neo-Nazi movements of the late 1980s and early 1990s, are unlikely to serve in government, but will demand radical changes as a price for their support.

The shift could also tip the Democrats' political balance within the European Union, especially



The Sweden leader wants to

migrants, many of whom arrive via Greece, to go if, as expected, elections in Italy next Sunday lead to victory for a right-wing alliance headed by Giorgia Meloni, of the Brothers of

Italy party The main demands of the Sweden Democrats – and their charismatic leader, Jimmie Akesson, 43, who has worked hard to "detoxify" the party he has led since 2005 centre on the country's immigration policy, which has long been one of the most welcoming in Europe.

The party has set out a 30point programme aimed at overturning that policy, with laws that would make it possible to deny asylum to anyone saying they are fleeing persecution for being gay, or for changing their faith. Its manifesto said immigrants in Sweden who had not "adapted to society in a good way should be encouraged to return". "Welcome to the

repatriation train. You have a

one-way ticket. Next stop, Kabul!" tweeted Tobias Andersson, the party's law and order spokesman, weeks before the election. During the refugee crisis of

2015, Sweden took in more than 160,000 asylum seekers, largely from the Middle East and Afghanistan and many of them young men – a huge number for a country of 9.9 million people. About 20 per cent of Sweden's present population was born abroad.

Critics on the left as well as on the right say this influx has not been accompanied by sufficient effort to integrate the newcomers, many of whom are housed in poorer areas such as Arby, where there are few indigenous Swedes. Their children are drawn into crime, joining gangs involved in drugs.

"Sweden has by far the largest number of fatal shootings in Europe; so far this year we've had 47, almost all of them gang-related," said Diamant Salihu, a reporter for Swedish television who has written a book about gang warfare in Stockholm. "Most of them are happening in what we call our 'vulnerable areas' - suburbs where the people with a migrant background are concentrated." In Eskilstuna, the Sweden

Democrats won 24.2 per cent, three points more than four years ago, largely as a result of the media attention prompted by the shootings. Talking to people on the streets there it was difficult to find anyone who would say they had voted for a party still seen as beyond the pale by many. Jan Tern, 55, visiting from Gothenburg, said he had come close. "Jimmie Akesson is pretty straight," he said. "You know pretty much what you can expect from him." He paused before adding: "Integration has not been that great in Sweden." @Peter Conradi

# NEWSREVIEW





# WHY IT'S SO **HARD TO GET RID OF BAD**

"We have people that we sack," Rowley explained, "and then the police appeals tribunal says, 'No, you've got to keep them.'

"We have got people who have failed vetting who we still have to keep in the organisation, which is the most perverse conundrum.

> the process where we can deal with people and sack them, but then it can be overturned by the police appeals tribunal. There's another part of the process - a different route where you have

> > independent legally qualified chairs. "As a general

"So there's one part of

point, we don't have the final say. And that seems wrong and it would be really helpful to change that. But you must be clear that I know I have a lot I can do to improve the way we do it

ourselves." "It does feel like some of the cards are stacked against me," Rowley admitted.

# Is this the saviour of our embattled police?

The reputation of the Met has never been lower. But its new chief Sir Mark Rowley tells Dipesh Gadher he plans to send an officer to every burglary, cull 'toxic' members of the force and end taking the knee

itting in the bustling canteen of the Metropolitan Police's specialist operations centre, Sir Mark Rowley leaned across the table with a frank

"We have let the public out those corrupting our integrity." down," he said. "That's clear from what they are telling us. Confidence has dropped across all communities. In some communities it's dropped even further. At the bottom are the obvious - black communities and women."

The remarks by Rowley, who took charge of Britain's biggest police force last Monday, follow a string of high-profile scandals, including the rape and murder of Sarah Everard by an officer.

His candid assessment of how bad things are is in stark contrast to the defensive approach adopted by his predecessor, Dame Cressida Dick, who left under a cloud in April.

Rowley, 57, has the unenviable task of trying to restore trust in the Met at a time when policing in general has come under intense scrutiny. In his first interview as commissioner, which took place before the Queen's death, Rowley:

• Pledged to cull "toxic" officers involved in misogynistic, racist and homophobic behaviour;

• Promised to send police to every burglary, saying it was "too invasive" a crime

Called time on so-called woke policing and signalled that officers should not be taking the knee; Warned that crime-fighting was being

hampered by the "massive proportion" of police work that centres on mental health callouts; Revealed how being beaten uncon-

scious by football hooligans in Birmingham at the start of his career helped toughen him up.

Rowley was plunged straight into the deep end on his first day in the job by having to take charge of the biggest security operation the nation has seen, for tomorrow's state funeral for the Queen.

As the former head of counterterrorist policing in the UK, few would be better placed to oversee things, and he has assured the public that "we will have a safe event". On Tuesday, however, the work of rebuilding Londoners' trust in the Met begins.

Aside from the killing of Everard by PC Wayne Couzens last year, the force has been shaken by a racism and bullying scandal at Charing Cross police station; officers sharing selfies of themselves next to the bodies of two murdered sisters; and the strip-searching of children, including a 15-year-old black schoolgirl known as Child Q.

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary recently took the unprecedented decision to place the Met into special measures, partly after discovering that it had failed to record 69,000 crimes.

A week before he started as commissioner, an unarmed black rapper, Chris Kaba, 24, was shot dead in south London by a Met firearms officer after a police

chase, threatening to raise community tensions. The officer was suspended from duties just hours after Rowley took up office. He acknowledged that there have been some "ghastly incidents". He said: "We have to be ruthless in rooting

"The racist language, some of the toxic behaviours we have seen ... it's so far beyond the pale. It should be, 'Do not pass go, do not collect £200.' Leave the organisation."

"Systemically - from our systems, from our culture - we haven't been good enough," he conceded.

"It's not about how many problematic individuals we've got - frankly, we've got too many, whatever the number is.

"It's more about, 'Are the public seeing an organisation which is ruthless about preserving high standards and throwing out the people who don't live up to the standards they expect from the police?' The police should have the highest standards because we enforce the law.

"What we've seen recently are exemplar cases which start to give a concern that ... it's very clear that we are not [ruthless enough]. The truth is that we need to be. We've undercooked it. We have inadvertently allowed behaviour to survive and perhaps grow that we should have been looking to extinguish from policing."

As part of his reforms, Rowley, a Camgraduate. bridge-educated maths intends to recruit more than 100 officers to the Met's professional standards directorate, often referred to as the Line of Duty squad, after the hit BBC show.

He likens his plans to kick out rogue officers today with the drive 50 years ago by Sir Robert Mark, one of the Met's most

**Patsy Stevenson** respected commissioners, to tackle widewas arrested spread corruption in CID units. "This is a different problem," he said. during a vigil for

Sarah Everard

last March. Sir

Mark Rowley

should

not

align

with a

group

protest

wants to restore

'It's racism, it's misogyny, it's homophobia – people who don't honour the oath they take as a cop." Rowley disclosed that officers sus-

pected of discrimination could be placed under surveillance by undercover colleagues. However, he complained that under regulations he did not have the final say on who he can dismiss. Independent legally qualified experts often preside over police misconduct hearings and decisions can be overturned on appeal.

But he believes that the majority of decent officers on the front line have been let down as much as the public either by a lack of leadership in punishing miscreants, or by practical problems, such as poor kit or being overwhelmed by non-police work, including having to respond to mental health callouts.

"You see people who are really disillusioned," said Rowley. "They don't feel set up to win." He said some officers were spending up to 12 hours sitting in hospital A&E departments guarding vulnerable patients. "[A] massive proportion of work is effectively [dealing with] mental health crises," he said. "You can't say it's so and so's fault, but systematically you've got cops filling the void, which is the wrong answer to the problem.

"They should be fighting crime. They

should be working with communities." When Rowley served as chief constable of Surrey police from 2009-11, he cut crime significantly and lifted public confi-

dence levels to the highest in the country. In an effort to repeat this at the Met, he indicated he wanted to boost the number of officers on the streets. "Local visibility and working with local people to fix local issues is at the heart of it," he said.

'There's no point in ringing the police', Rowley seems genuinely wounded. "That upsets me," he said. "We have to be paying attention to a full range of crimes.'

Asked how he feels when people say,

If residents have repeatedly raised concerns about the same thing, such as vehicle theft or anti-social behaviour, Rowley believes it should be tackled.

He is also adamant that an officer should attend every reported burglary: "It's what most people would expect. It is too invasive a crime to respond in any other way. This isn't about, small 'P', political window dressing because I want to keep everyone happy. This is about effective policing that has the support of and contribution of communities. We

lose that at our peril." Rowley's back-to-basics approach appears to leave little room for woke activities, such as officers taking the knee in support of the Black Lives Matter movement or the policing of rows on Twitter. "We should not align with any protest group, whether it's a cause that everyone agrees with or a cause that only 1 per cent agrees with," he said. "We are the police and we should operate without fear or favour. We get lost trying to please

all of the people all of the time. Educated at Handsworth Grammar School for boys in Birmingham, Rowley decided at 17 that he wanted to join the police as a forensic scientist. He said his peers at Cambridge, where he studied maths at St Catherine's College, regarded his chosen vocation with "bemusement".

"I literally went from finals at Cambridge to a few months later walking the streets of Birmingham," he said.

He was only 18 months into the job as a constable with West Midlands police when he was beaten unconscious and got a broken nose as he tried to arrest a man who threw a beer bottle at a pub window. "The thing I didn't know was that he was on a stag night for Birmingham City hooligans - the Zulu Warriors," Rowley recalled. "It ends up with me wrestling with him on the floor; them all putting in the boot, while shouting, 'Zulu! Zulu! Zulu!"

The yob was jailed for 18 months. "It was a really important experience for me in my life," said Rowley, an Aston Villa season ticketholder. "It shook me up for a while and I was off sick for a few weeks. You go back on patrol and you build your confidence again. It teaches you about your own resilience.'

Despite looking like a bookish academic in his black-rimmed spectacles, that resilience has served him well in other difficult situations.

At Surrey police, which he joined in 2000 following a stint at the National Criminal Intelligence Service, he led the initial investigation into the murder of Milly Dowler, the 13-year-old schoolgirl abducted by the serial killer Levi Bellfield.

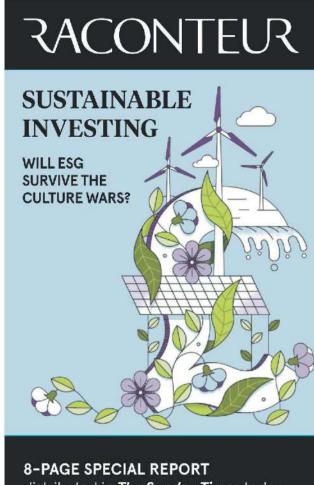
Rowley joined the Met in 2011 as assistant commissioner for specialist operations. He was instrumental in tackling gang violence and helped to bring down London's murder rate to a record low. He later became Britain's most senior counterterrorism officer, leading the response to five terror attacks in 2017, including the Manchester Arena bombing.

That year he lost out to Dick, 61, in the Met commissioner race and left the police to work as a consultant in the private sector. He acted as a strategic adviser to Deloitte and was a non-executive director of Quest Global, an investigations and security company set up by Lord Stevens, who led the Met from 2000 to 2005.

Married to a lawyer and with two grown-up children, Rowley also found time to co-author a crime thriller called The Sleep of Reason. His experience in the "outside world" has reinforced his zeal for the greater use of data and technology. "If we try to deliver Woolworths policing in an Amazon century then we are going to fail," said Rowley.

Earlier this year when Dick - the Met's first female and openly gay boss - lost the confidence of Sadiq Khan, the London mayor, and, to a lesser extent, Priti Patel, then the home secretary, Rowley could not resist running again.

"What I realised when Cress went is how much policing still matters to me," he said. "I want to be part of trying to help it bounce back. We will bounce back and we will be excellent. But excellence starts with candour, doesn't it?" @DipeshGadher



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# Nothin' but a found dog — and thousands helped

Chef Angela Hartnett's celebrity pals put out the word that her beloved Jack Russell was missing. The power of social media brought back Betty, she tells Hattie Crisell

ast weekend began like any other for the Michelin-starred chef, Angela Hartnett, and her dog, Betty. On Saturday morning Hartnett was at home in east London while her excitable 17-month-old Jack Russell had been taken for a walk in Southwark Park by a friend. At about 8:45am the friend rang Hartnett. "He said, 'Is she outside the front door?" she recalls. "And I said, 'No, she's

This was the beginning of a four-day drama that would involve thousands of people, some of the country's top chefs and celebrity helpers who all leapt into action to help Hartnett locate her dog. But at this point it was just Hartnett and a handful of worried friends and family.

On arrival at the park, Hartnett's friend had been confused to find the back seat empty. He panicked: had the dog jumped out of the window at some point on the drive? Had he somehow left the house without her in the first place? There was no sign of her in the area around the car so he drove back, his eyes darting along the pavements on the way: no Betty. Hartnett and her friends began searching nearby streets, she says, "because we're not a hundred per cent sure where she's gone missing". She posted on Twitter, asking her followers to look out for Betty in the E1 postcode. "Then I cycle to Southwark Park, and between home and that area - which involves crossing Tower Bridge - we're thinking, where the hell is she? She could

Hartnett's printer wasn't working, but Farokh Talati – head chef of the famous neighbouring restaurant St John Bread and Wine – came to her rescue with posters. "We started flyering the whole area," she says. "We were out and about most of Saturday, going backwards and forwards the whole route, and again on Sunday." By Monday, things were looking ominous. They called local councils and vets, who had been closed over the weekend, but no one had information. There were no reports of dogs killed on roads, and Betty hadn't been handed in to Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. "Come Tuesday, we thought, someone's got her," Hartnett says. "We decided we had to keep up the social media activity to make her too hot to handle, so that if anyone wanted to keep her, the moment she stepped out, she'd be recognised."

Fortunately, Hartnett's tweets caught the eye of some influential people. First the chef and restaurateur Michel Roux Jr (360,000 followers) retweeted it; then so did Nigella Lawson (2.7 million). Then the ripples began to spread beyond the culinary world: the BBC's Gary Lineker lent a hand, retweeting Betty's flight to his 8.5



million followers. So did the comedian Ricky Gervais, posting the appeal to his 15 million followers.

Harnett is well aware that there were bigger stories unfolding last week, but Betty's plight seemed to move people. "I put it in my Instagram stories, and I was averaging about 50,000 views a day," Hartnett says. "Then Daisy Lowe, Nick Grimshaw and Rylan [the model and broadcasters] shared that, so I imagine the views went into the hundreds of thou-

This is not unprecedented: in August, the football pundit Jamie Redknapp helped a mate track down his muchloved bulldog Beefy with a social media campaign; Dawn French has been spreading the word of a friend's missing cat, while Orlando Bloom appealed on Instagram in 2020 for the safe return of his poodle Mighty (sadly, this was unsuccessful and the pet was found dead).

Even without a celebrity following, social media is now the best tool pet owners have if their animal is lost or stolen. Amateur Twitter accounts such as @The-DogFinder and @MissingPetsGB were particularly helpful in spreading the word, Hartnett says. She also registered Betty on DogLost.co.uk, a free database of missing pets. Animal Search (animalsearchuk.co.uk) is another usefu resource that matches lost animals with their worried owners.

Rebecca Swan works in PR there - but has done everything from retrieving pets to acting as a sort of therapist for panicking owners. The most important thing, she says, is to know your pet and what the risk factors may be - whether it's an indoor cat who may want to escape, or a dog that isn't vet trained. "Most importantly, make sure that your pet is microchipped and your chip details are up to date, and pre-register them in our database, so that you can move quickly if the animal goes missing.

Publicity is key, she says: "You've got to get enough people to care and take





# Betty spotted a squirrel and leapt out before anyone noticed

time out of their day to help you, and you've got to make sure they have the correct information and know how to report back." Animal Search will make posters and provide a search team for a fee,

which may be covered by pet insurance. In Hartnett's case, her efforts paid off. Late on Tuesday afternoon, a man called Shane got in touch with a photo he'd snapped of Betty shortly after she went missing on Sunday. He had seen someone tying a dog to a railing on Jamaica Road, near Southwark Park, and walking away. "He goes up to the guy and says: 'Why are guy says: 'Well, I saw her running in the road, and I don't want her to get run over, but it's not my dog." A woman then told Shane she would take the dog to the vet,"and that was the last anyone saw".

Encouraged, Hartnett and her search party went flyering on Jamaica Road on Tuesday night and again on Wednesday morning. Later that day they received the best news. As it turned out, it was "this lovely lady Vanessa", Hartnett says, who had taken Betty home, assuming that she had been abandoned. Her daughter saw a flyer on the way to school, and Vanessa called us and said: 'I think I've got Betty.'

Hartnett suspects that when her friend pulled up at Southwark Park on Saturday morning, Betty spotted a squirrel and leapt before he noticed. "She likes to know what's going on," she says. Her return has spread a lot of joy; Hartnett has received hundreds of happy messages from wellwishers. On the day she speaks to The Sunday Times, she's just returned from walking the dog on Hampstead Heath: "A woman in front of us turned round and said: 'Oh my God, yes!

and her husband **Neil with Betty** safe at home in Shoreditch, east London. Orlando Bloom, above left, also turned to the internet to try to find his

poodle Mighty

# If you thought 45 was bad... 47 is far worse

Midlife can feel like a dreary trudge, with too much stress and not enough sleep. Even chimps hate it. But ageing does bring acceptance of your lot, hopes Matt Rudd

ife begins at 40, but we've really had enough of it by the time we hit 45. So concludes a paper, published last week by the National Bureau of Economic Research, with the spoiler title The Midlife Crisis. Trouble with sleep, clinical depression, disabling headaches and alcohol dependence all surge from the mid-40s. The basic measures of life satisfaction decline. Happy birthday.

I turned 45 on March 23, 2020, the very day life satisfaction was curtailed on a national scale by lockdown. Alcohol dependence seemed like a pretty good idea at the time. But even without that first sighting of the podium of doom, I did not enjoy the milestone.

The minute you turn 45, you are closer to 50 than 40 and closer to 70 than 20. That would be fine if time passed at a uniform speed. It doesn't. A year when you're young takes forever. A year in your forties takes five minutes.

The authors of the new study said they were unable to explain why people unlucky enough to be my age should experience a sudden decline in psychological or emotional health. They decided being disappointed with one's lot was a likely culprit. Also, to a degree, unmet aspirations. As in, Graham Potter is managing Chelsea and he's two months younger than me. Why aren't I managing Chelsea? Feeling "overwhelmed in the workplace" didn't help, they said. If they had asked me, I would have told them it's more nuanced than that.

Midlife is the first time since you started walking (gold star for Matthew) that the next step is not immediately obvious. This isn't always the case, of course. You might get knocked off course much earlier. Or you might win the lottery. But if you follow the heavily marketed conventional path, the first half of life is just one long and relentless box-ticking exercise. Tie your shoelaces Tick. Go to school. Tick. Pass exams. Tick. Get a job. Tick. Get a slightly better job. Tick. Waste large amounts of your disposable income on stuff you don't need. Tick. Find a partner. Tick. Procreate. Tick. Spend your thirties wiping bums and fighting car seats. Tick.

Sisyphus was fine when he was rolling the boulder up the hill. It's only when he stopped for a cup of tea at the top that the boulder rolled down again. At 45, I stopped and, as the boulder rolled down again, the view was a recently extended 24-year mortgage, 4,217 more morning commutes and then a carriage clock, a reclining armchair and lawn bowls. If I was lucky. If I could survive in a workplace where people half my age were not only somehow of a working age but also capable of adapting

new-fangled, newly essential bit of tech. My response to all of that was sudden-onset insomnia. Every night at 3am, I'd wake up and select from a menu of things to worry about. Money. Work. The broken radiator. Money. The kids. The parents. The withering look that that 23-year-old coworker gave me when I asked how you save a Google doc. The meaning of life. Money.

far quicker than me to every

And then, for the first time, my health. Older friends were on hand to play the ghost of Christmas future with their polyps and their prostates and their pattern baldness. You're immortal in your thirties. You're a mayfly with a mortgage in your forties.

That was 45. Now, ten minutes later, I'm 47. At 45, I was older than the minister for health. Now, I'm

somehow older than the prime minister. Give it another couple of years of fountain-pen-related stress and I'll be older than the King. That feels very wrong. There's no way, purely based on her age and mine, nothing else, that Liz Truss should be running the country.

But! Here in my late forties I'm feeling better about the ridiculous ephemerality of life. How? I did a thing a lot of middle-aged men in particular aren't very good at doing. I told other middleaged friends how I was feeling. All but one told me they felt the same. We were all in the same half-empty boat of doom. Bereft of obvious boxes to tick, with nothing but two more decades of slog to look forward to, I was not the only one waking up in the middle of the night feeling anxious.

The exception proved the rule – a friend who refused to engage at all. With his fingers in his ears, he said he couldn't talk about this stuff or he might not be able to go to work in the morning. That was a fun pint.

Once you realise you're not alone, that a lot of 45-yearolds don't enjoy being 45, and that, counterintuitively, a lot





Chelsea's new boss Graham **Potter and PM Liz Truss** 



Does life get better

Have your say at

of 60-year-olds are happier than ever, it all begins to make sense. With the removal of pressing goals and five-year plans, there arrives something approaching freedom.

Elliott Jaques, the psychoanalyst who first saddled us with the term "midlife crisis" in 1965, described it as the transition from youthful idealism to "contemplative pessimism" or, even more appealingly, "constructive resignation". Instead of hoping one day to drive a Bentley, you accept you'll never get rid of the Grand Scenic Can you avoid the midlife

doldrums altogether? I'm not sure it's advisable. Other research suggests that the majority of people who experience some form of life crisis end up happier five years on. Better to have a reckoning sooner rather than later. Besides, as the authors of the study also noted, chimpanzees and orangutans also suffer "a midlife psychological low". Unless they're also worrying about the mortgage, all of this is just part of being a primate.

# I was a butterball health secretary -leave Thérèse **Coffey alone**

A raft of obesity taxes are about to be axed. But the new minister should not be criticised for smoking and drinking, her predecessor Ken Clarke believes

ne of the biggest crises facing the country is in the health service and as secretary of state for health Thérèse Coffey has a huge task ahead of her. But her success or otherwise – and I hope she's very successful – has nothing at all to do with her smoking and diet habits, despite recent criticism.

I was minister of state for health for two or three years [1982-1985], reshuffled away, and then in 1988 I came back as secretary of state, the number one in the department. And nobody actually confronted me or put pressure on me to stop smoking, from the chief

medical officer downwards. My permanent secretary and senior civil servants

accepted that they had a minister who smoked. And I did, throughout both my terms of office. Of course this was in the 1980s – I suspect quite a lot of ministers smoked, and it never crossed my mind not to. Sentiment was changing

while I was there though. I do remember that when I got back after that gap I went into the secretary of state's office and the first question I asked was: "What have you done with the ashtrays"? They'd been taken away.

I always say jokingly that the foundations trembled slightly. But ashtrays were found and they all endured the fact that from then on any meetings with the secretary of state, in his room or his conference room, were going

to have some cigar smoke

I had an excellent press officer called Romola Christopherson who attended a lot of my meetings and was also a heavy smoker. She was absolutely delighted to have a boss back who had ashtrays.

I know I ought to feel guilty but I'm going back 30 years and I don't. I realise I've been lucky – I'm not denying that smoking is the biggest single cause of lung cancer in the country. I do acknowledge the change in mood and these days would have more regard for people who don't smoke. But life has risks and smoking is one I've willingly incurred because it's a nice part of my lifestyle – I've never made any attempt to give up.

This winter is going to be very rough in the National Health Service and we are going to have strikes in large proportion all over the public sector. When you've a real catalogue of crises, the one thing we don't want to start judging ministers on is their personal lifestyle – as long as they're not doing anything illegal or immoral or that otherwise makes them

unattractive people. Whether or not Thérèse succeeds is all to do with her ability to lead a team, take the right decisions and get them implemented - and go through the necessary process of reform and raising the required money from the Treasury so that the NHS functions normally.

The first thing she

should do is decide how they're going to tackle the manpower and training problem. People I know in the health service all say it's the job vacancies – the shortage of necessary staff – that is the biggest feature of this crisis.

We need a proper manpower plan, rapidly, that will work out how we're going to train enough doctors and other professional staff in this country, as quickly as possible. We've turned away all the Europeans and that seems to be the main principle upon which this government is founded. We are getting vast numbers from the Indian subcontinent and Africa but it's still not enough to meet our needs.

My jobs in health and at the Treasury were the two toughest jobs I had and they're the ones I enjoyed most – I liked the feeling that

we were doing something, that I could do some good. But in both departments I certainly needed the occasional smoke and the

occasional drink. There was the tradition, which went back to Disraeli, that the chancellor was allowed to have alcohol in the chamber when he was delivering his budget. I chose



Kenneth Clarke and Thérèse Coffey both enjoy a smoke and a drink





chancellor seems to have dared to do so since. I don't know if Kwasi Kwarteng will. Thérèse and I were colleagues for a few years in the House of Commons and although I never socialised with her outside parliament, she is a perfectly nice woman who happens to lead a relaxed way of life and enjoy a cigar every now and then. The criticism of her appearance and habits is tabloid newspaper rubbish. I was a real butterball when I was a minister, much heavier than I am now. And I would

to have whisky – Glenfarclas

– because it would give me

the energy to keep going and

deliver the budget in as interesting a way as I could. I

don't think it caused any

harm and I probably did it

with more of a flourish than

some of my predecessors. I

sometimes but I didn't get

carried away – I never got

Funnily enough, I was

succeeded by a Scotsman -

appear to like whisky. I just

kept up a longstanding

tradition. But for some

peculiar reason, no

Gordon Brown – who didn't

remotely tipsy while

delivering a speech.

had some pretty big measures

straight - but I didn't always remember. We need to focus less on personalities and trivia, and more on proper reporting of serious policies. That's far

As told to Liz Edwards



# THE SUNDAY TIMES

ESTABLISHED 1822

# The monarchy is here to stay. It must evolve along with us

fter a week of pageantry the second Elizabethan era has drawn to an end and the third Carolean one has begun. Other over a leaky pen, the Queen's his first week as King, travelling more than 1,500 miles to carry out engagements while mourning his mother.

The reception was generally positive, but on a walkabout in Wales Charles encountered a flavour of public opinion that mostly stayed submerged during the Queen's reign. "While we struggle to heat our homes, we have to pay for your parade," shouted a man from the crowd. His voice was quickly drowned out.

Republicanism remains a fringe movement in Britain. The Queen's preternatural calm, her understanding of the duties and limitations of the role, and her ability to evolve gently – called the Marmite-jar strategy by some aides for the way the container's design morphed almost imperceptibly – obviated the need for serious discussion about the monarchy's

Charles, known for his past interference in matters ranging from architecture to defence, has indicated that he knows the top job will require a different approach. "I'm not that stupid," he told the BBC in 2018 on the subject of his interventions. "I do realise that it is a separate exercise being sovereign."

We must hope so. The Queen was the force that held the Windsors together through the tribulations of Charles's divorce from Diana, Prince Andrew's alleged sex scandal and Prince Harry's rancorous departure for California with the Duchess of Sussex, among other problems. Her charm and grace carried the royal family through what could have been turning points in public opinion.

But the demise of the Queen will inevitably leave the monarchy exposed. Even though the country has clearly decided that it is fully committed to the idea of a will be put in the spotlight.

The country needs to have a sophisticated and serious debate about what it now expects from the head of state.

than a moment of tetchiness and to reshape the monarchy in keeping with the times. Medieval arrangements eldest son did a sterling job in must come with a 21st-century sense of purpose. We must ask ourselves what we look for in a constitutional monarchy.

Charles has already indicated that he intends to slim down the Firm - to reduce its core to the direct line of succession.

In the Prince and Princess of Wales, the family has a capable next generation, while members such as Prince Andrew and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex have become more peripheral through their

There will be significant political events to navigate. Brexit tensions may flare up again over the Northern Irish protocol. The prospect of a push for Irish reunification and a second Scottish independence referendum raise existential threats to the union. These events will have the potential to break governments and they will pose huge challenges for the

The Queen judged her comments correctly when she urged voters in the 2014 Scottish referendum to "think very carefully about the future". The monarch must tread a narrow path in these moments of near-crisis, seeking to shepherd the nation in the right direction while supporting the prime minister and radiating quiet confidence.

Throughout her 70 years on the throne, the Queen did just that. Through her stewardship she ensured that, in the eyes of the average voter, the royal family delivered value for money. It became an asset for the nation, not a liability, and a respected part of public life rather than an

Charles must do the same. Without the blessings of his mother's soft skills, he will need to try all the harder to prove that he can set aside his personal pursuits and constitutional monarchy, the institution make the monarchy serve Britain rather than vice versa.

# As King, Charles must learn to evolve

This is to be welcomed.

own doing.

anachronism.

# Let's hope Truss's wild strategy helps us weather this winter

For the past ten days business as usual has for two years. There is some scepticism been suspended as Britain marks the Queen's death, a period of national mourning that extends to tomorrow's state funeral. It will then be time for the in the face of rapid price rises. government to turn attention to the winter ahead and the challenges it will bring.

On Friday the pound slid to its lowest level against the dollar for 37 years. The inflation rate is hovering at close to 10 per cent and interest rates are expected to jump for a seventh consecutive time when the Bank of England's monetary policy committee meets this week.

Liz Truss and Kwasi Kwarteng have made growth the centrepiece of their administration and intend to announce They have already fired a big bazooka at the problem of soaring energy costs, in the shape of a £150 billion package to keep the average household's bill frozen at £2,500

about the coherence of the new prime minister and chancellor's plans, particularly their punt on a huge fiscal loosening

Sterling's drop against the dollar reflects a lack of confidence in the UK's leadership and concerns over the economy's structure, our reliance on wholesale gas imports and the long-running complications of Brexit. Against an unprecedentedly volatile backdrop, the combination of aggressive tax-cutting and bailouts with higher interest rates and quantitative tightening by the Bank is a bold experiment.

While doubts about the political policies this week designed to boost GDP. wisdom of some elements of the new duo's strategy are understandable, we must hope it pays off. A serious downturn is heading our way. An audacious response may well be the most effective defence.

# Right on queue

mile embodiment of the values the Queen something glorious about all this, and stood for: orderliness, courtesy, stoicism, patience ... and a certain sense of mischief. The end of the queue has been spotted, we're told, in Paris, in the Himalayas and on the moon.

It has become a phenomenon, an attraction in its own right, as the British people come to watch other British people being quintessentially British. And what could be more British than that?

The queue for the queue, inevitably, thing has been described as Britain's best

The queue is a thing of wonder. It is a tenpiece of performance art. There is something significant. Because while the route may have been ordained by officials, the queue was created, and given its uniquely joyful, eccentric character, by us. It is the people who give the monarchy meaning, and we have surpassed ourselves here.

The King tacitly acknowledged all this when he visited queuers yesterday. He knows it would have warmed his mother's heart. It warms ours, too, and we'll miss it has been dubbed the QE2, and the whole when it's gone. Queuestalgia awaits. In the meantime: God save the queue.

# Dr Rachel Clarke Scrap sugar tax and I'll watch more patients die



# Moves to end the anti-obesity strategy will have incalculable health costs

young man, barely into his twenties, manages a trace of a rueful smile. "I don't suppose you'd let me have a McDonald's would you, doctor?" he whispers, having reached the point in his illness where every movement has become an effort of will. It takes 72 muscles to speak and cancer has laid waste to them all.

The smile I return is delighted, effusive. "Let you? Honestly, I'll drive there to collect it myself if necessary. How do you like your Big Macs?" Later that evening, his room is filled with so many members of his grieving family adults, teenagers, octogenarians, toddlers, all of them stuffing their faces from brown paper bags stamped with golden arches – that a miasma of saturated fats and sickly sweet sugars wafts along the hospital corridor. My patient can barely manage a mouthful. Yet before he dies, a few days later, he says the takeout was simply "magic"

No one knows better than a palliative care doctor how much of what matters in life is its simple sensory pleasures. Food, drink, sunshine, tactility. Joy is felt, touched, tasted and smelt – which is why I sometimes prescribe alcohol on a drug chart, ensuring that the patient's favourite single malt is specified, for example, along with the glass tumbler (supplied by us) in which to pour it.

So when, in debates about the pros and cons of the so-called "sin taxes", commentators occasionally thunder on about killjoy doctors and politicians seeking to nanny the pleasure out of life, I struggle to hold my tongue. The director of the Institute of Economic Affairs, Christopher Snowdon, is one such example. Prompted by the news that Liz Truss may be poised to overturn the sugar tax, he swiftly penned an online polemic condemning the "usual state-funded pressure groups", "media dimwits" and "activist-bureaucrats" who want to propel Britain down the "road to serfdom" as though freedom, fundamentally, is about our inalienable right to drink syrupy Irn-Bru.

Truss's plans to set fire to the fiscal measures at the heart of the UK's obesity strategy should surprise no one. In 2019, she approvingly shared a similar polemic by Snowdon, tweeting that: "If Boris wants to help Britain's poorest, scrapping the sugar tax is the place to start." Then, on the campaign trail this June, she vowed that if she replaced Boris Johnson as prime minister, she would scrap his plans for a ban on "buy one, get one free" deals on junk

food and pledge that no new "nanny state" levies would be imposed on products high in fat, sugar or salt. She told the Daily Mail that people "don't want the government telling them what to eat".

The libertarian case against sugar taxes argues that they are unwanted, ineffective, excessively prohibitive and harmful to "poor people". When judged on evidence as opposed to rhetoric, each argument is ultimately specious. Contrary to Truss's claim, the UK's soft drinks industry levy - which taxes excessively sugary soft drinks - has had strong public support since George Osborne announced it in 2016: 70 per cent of respondents backed the tax in a peer-reviewed study. The levy is also demonstrably effective. Not only has our consumption of high-sugar drinks gone down, but the drinks industry has responded exactly as intended by radically reducing the proportion of the highest-sugar drinks it sells to consumers (from 49 per cent to 15 per cent over a four-year period).

Libertarians try to use the straw man argument that the sugar tax is a failure since obesity rates have continued to soar - as if any single measure could be a silver bullet in an environment so saturated with food industry advertising. The fact is, adults and children alike are bombarded online, on TV, in magazines and on the street with relentless ads for junk food. Companies use every trick in the book to seduce us into consuming more of what we know is bad for us

Two-for-one deals lure us into unhealthy choices, while those cynically positioned rows of sweets in supermarket aisles transparently sacrifice small children's health for profits. Products are designed to use sugar to bypass our natural appetite control mechanisms. Such products are packaged, promoted and heavily discounted to make them enticing Small wonder nearly two thirds of adult

Children's health is being sacrificed in the pursuit of profit Britons are overweight or obese. Even more shockingly, 14.4 per cent of reception-age children (aged four to five) in England are obese, as are a quarter of 10 to 11-year-olds. Predictably, there is a strong association between deprivation and obesity. The highest rates of overweight and obese people are found in the most deprived communities. Receptionage children in the most deprived areas, for example, are twice as likely to be obese as those in the least. In health terms these statistics are calamitous. Obesity significantly increases our risk of cancer, heart disease, stroke, osteoarthritis, tooth decay and premature death. It also costs the NHS an estimated £6.1 billion a year.

Our alleged right to consume whatever we like is clearly spurious, or at the very least simplistic, in a profoundly obesogenic environment. Obesity will never be a simple matter of personal responsibility when the food industry spends millions on trying to override our willpower - and on lobbying those with political power.

Johnson's brush with death from Covid – another disease whose severity is linked to obesity – led to him launching an obesity strategy that looked, for once, genuinely worldbeating. Two years later he kicked those policies into touch. Now, Truss appears determined to rewind the clock further. The Treasury's review of measures designed to deter people from eating junk food could result in the scrapping of the entire anti-obesity strategy, with incalculable public health costs.

So forgive me if I seethe at our new prime minister's faux concern for "the poor". If she really cared about our most deprived citizens in the midst of a cost of living crisis, she could use the revenue from the sugar tax to subsidise healthier food and drink. Instead, it seems an ideological zeal for deregulation matters more to Truss than protecting lives. Unlike her, I have seen too many people dying of cancer, heart disease, stroke and type 2 diabetes not to feel furious. This is a public health failure where more, not less, action is needed. If the prime minister abandons sugar taxes, she will condemn even greater numbers of society's most disadvantaged members to illness, suffering and early death. And all to sate an ideological fervour for small-state politics. That's not compassion; it's a national scandal

Rachel Clarke is a palliative care doctor and writer. Dominic Lawson is away

# **India Knight** Phones cut us off from moments that matter



# Rather than see history with their own eyes, the Queen's mourners film it

friend of a friend joined the crowds last week watching the Queen's hearse passing by. Having stood there for hours with an increasingly grumpy baby in tow, he raised his phone as the cortège finally heaved into view. When he got home, he was extremely put out to realise he had failed to press record. All that waiting and no footage! He was annoyed and dismayed.

Without a video, had it even happened? Was he even there? The complicated answer to that is yes, obviously – he was physically there and saw the cortège with his eyes. But also nohe had no proof, nothing to show the world, nothing to post or share, and so the experience felt incomplete, as though it had

gone wrong. I'm bothered by all these phones. Everyone has one and the crowds are huge. How strange it must be for a recently bereaved family to be met with a sea of blank, glinting screens as they walk their sad walk behind the coffin. It doesn't feel courteous. (When Prince Harry and Prince William went walkabout at Windsor, people shoved their phones inches from their grieving faces. I know it's considered normal, but that doesn't stop it being insanely rude).

I've been asking myself whether I would whip out my phone and take a picture or video of the late Queen's hearse if it had passed by. Would I make it a selfie, with my own face in the foreground, looking sombre? I like to think not – it's certainly not something I'd do at the funeral of someone I knew - but I can't be sure, because the idea that things aren't real unless there's evidence on one's phone is so much the norm that the idea of questioning it feels absurdly outdated: the genie isn't so much out of the bottle as eating your dinner and sleeping with your wife.

The cheering and clapping – so understandable and yet also so odd – are absent from Westminster Hall, where the Queen is lying in state until tomorrow. There is only silence and the shuffling of feet as thousands upon thousands of people bow their heads, or nod, or cross themselves, or cry, or just look a bit stunned. Same crowd, as far as I can tell: it's just that now they are in the moment. The moment is intense, and they clearly feel it intensely (I have watched thousands of them on the live feed, with which I am inexplicably obsessed). Now they are feet away from the body of the late monarch, the setting is breath-taking, the pageantry is magnificent and you can feel the weight of history. There is intimacy. So, of course, they're moved. But much of that also applies to the various processions: witnessing the royal family's grief close-up is also intimate, almost shockingly so during the vigils that took place in Edinburgh and London.

The difference in tone is down to phones. There are no phones allowed at Westminster Hall. Consequently people feel their feelings. They're not recording anything for posterity. They're not going to show off about being there on social media. Nothing is performative or for anyone else's benefit. They are simply present, and without wanting to sound too poncey about it, their phonelessness frees them to fully feel.

The idea that phones make us feel connected is only true up to a point. Connected to friends and strangers, yes. Plugged in to a world of information and possibilities, absolutely. But also disconnected from what we are experiencing. It only takes a fraction of a second to press record or tap the camera, and another couple to frame the shot,

In the hall, without their phones, people felt the intensity

but that's all it takes for our full attention to waver. And then we watch - and experience the event or the person or the scene not with our own eyes but through a fixed lens. We don't need to really look, properly, in detail, because we can always zoom in later when we get home. All of these things take us away from how we would experience the situation naturally, and I think it alters both reaction and behaviour. It also does something depressing to imagination, because if everything is recorded in this rather clinical way, romance and memory fall by the

The act of remembering something becomes a ploddy matter of fact – just look at your phone - rather than a pleasurable straining for recollection. ("I remember that! It was boiling hot and you were wearing a blue dress!" has more charm and is more fun than, "Look it up, it was mid-August.")

If you were being gloomy about it, you could argue that what this constant need for recording everything meaningful on your phone eventually translates into is the inability to feel very much unless you have a visual trigger - or rather, unless we know a visual trigger exists in our phone should we want it, which we rarely do because no one looks at this stuff after a few days. Say you're the annoying person recording a gig: are you really going to sit down and watch that video of the band's best song? Ask your friends round and make them sit through your jerky footage? Are you going to show them your necessarily limited view of the Queen's funeral, when they'll have seen much better pictures and better video on their televisions? What, or who, is all this recording for?

It's pointless hoping that there will be fewer raised phones and more bowed heads during tomorrow's funeral procession: as I say, that ship has well and truly sailed. But the peaks and troughs of life deserve our full attention and the unadulterated force of our emotions. Phones are perfectly happy in pockets now and then.

## **COMMENT**



# Matthew Syed

# Scoff at ritual if you like, but nations cannot survive on rationality alone



## The traditions of the last ten days may seem arcane but they are a rope that helps bind us to our past

as it necessary for the lord high chancellor, an ancient role stretching back to before Norman times, to be present at the Accession Council of the King? Did he really need those robes? Was it necessary for the lord great chamberlain to be there, too, and the lord president of the council? Did the King need to murmur "approved" at punctuated moments during this arcane ceremony?

Did the procession of the Queen's coffin require the bell of Big Ben to ring out at intervals as the cortège moved through Westminster? Did we need the synchronised movements of the eight uniformed soldiers who carried the coffin to its place of rest in Westminster Hall? Do people need to queue in lines snaking beyond London Bridge when they could pay their respects remotely?

Why do we do these things? The answer, I think, is both simple and mysterious: we do them because they have no reason.

Over the past few decades psychologists have come to realise that humans act in two fundamentally different ways. On the one hand there are "instrumental" actions. This is where we go to the shop to buy food, or brush our teeth to protect them from disease, or rush to the station to catch a train. We infer motives on the basis of such actions, and perform actions on the basis of their expected consequences.

But there is another type of act, ancient in the human condition, which represents the antithesis of instrumentalism. The ostensible purpose of the events on Wednesday was to transport the Queen's coffin to Westminster Hall but this could have

been done in two minutes flat in a fast truck. The objective was not assisted by soldiers walking solemnly in lockstep, or royals joining in this curious march, or the shooting of cannon. Rituals are defined as actions that lack an instrumental purpose. For they signal not what we wish to do, but who we are.

As a sports writer, I have often talked to Liverpool players about the ritual of touching the "This is Anfield" sign on the wall of the tunnel when going out to play and all acknowledge that the gesture has no logical connection with the winning of football matches. It is not instrumental in the same way as the warm-up, or the tactical discussion beforehand, or the minute preparations building up to the contest. A rationalist might therefore say: why bother?

And yet all talk, in their different ways, of how the gesture connects them with previous generations who touched the same sign, the sense of being bound up with the great teams of the Seventies and Eighties, of their fleeting role in an unfolding story, a sense intensified as they walked into one of the great cathedrals of sport as You'll Never Walk Alone echoes above the city. Almost all refer to goosebumps, which we might think of as the surface manifestation of the human need to belong.

Rationalists mock these things, explaining that touching a sign is no more relevant to playing football than elaborate rituals are to drinking Japanese tea in ancient Kyoto. But this reveals, I think, a failure of imagination. Think of the procession on Wednesday and the sound of Big Ben ringing out, as it has done on previous occasions of state mourning, a web of connection stretching into the deep past. The religious writer Christopher Howse described the note as

"a most moving sound, a drop falling into the still sea of time".

Synchronicity is often central to these rituals and traditions. As we do things together, dancing or chanting or queuing, we merge with those around us as the brain is flooded by what psychologists call mimicry cues. Anyone who has joined in song with others in a great cathedral, disparate voices converging as the congregation sways as one, will grasp the power of these shared experiences. "The imagination is the goal of history," the botanist Terence McKenna wrote. "I see culture as an effort to literally realise our collective dreams."

Almost all the great thinkers have understood the need for mystery and tradition, from Hume to Einstein. Émile Durkheim distinguished between the sacred and the profane and placed rituals firmly in the former category. The anthropologist Hugh Baker talked of "a rope that stretches from Infinity to Infinity, passing over a razor which is the Present. If the rope is cut, both ends fall away from the middle and the rope is no more." Without ritual, without tradition, without the human instinct to engage in the rites of non-instrumentalism, where is the rope that binds?

I had a discussion last week with a friend who acknowledged the historic virtue of rituals but argued they were irrelevant to the modern world. He pointed to European nations that have dispensed with pomp and ceremony and whose royals travel by bicycle. Denmark, he said, is prosperous without the need for arcane flummery. I'd suggest the jury is still out. Denmark was forged in the great traditions of Viking lore, elaborate rituals that bound the ancient tribes of northern Europe together in conglomerations capable of taking on the

world. Their moots were as intricate as anything in the Anglo-Saxon canon. Who knows what will be the long-term effect of jettisoning these traditions? Who knows how its people will feel in 200 years? Can nations survive on rationality alone?

I say all this while happily acknowledging that it is appropriate to alter traditions, to allow them to evolve. We may wish for a scaled-down monarchy, perhaps, or to abolish the anachronistic House of Lords – it is important not to be straitjacketed by the past, as we have sometimes been. I certainly thought it was a mistake to cancel the football last week and the Last Night of the Proms out of "respect" for the Queen, but I would gently point out to those who sneer at all traditions, who condemn them on instrumental grounds, to open their minds a little. We do not mourn the death of the Queen because her passing was tragic; she had enjoyed a good innings. We do so to mark a staging post in the national story.

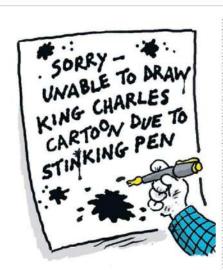
Our nation is old. We have even endured tribulations more existential than disagreements over Brexit. In some ways, perhaps like others, I have become a little fatigued by the ritualism and look forward to Tuesday when we can get on with life. But I suspect that in decades to come, the children of today will talk to their offspring about that curious period when we paused, when people queued in their tens of thousands, when a funeral procession held millions spellbound, and we glimpsed a rope of continuity stretching back to Norman times and across the four nations of the Union.

"We know what we are, but know not what we may be," Shakespeare wrote. It is tradition and ritual that connects the one to the other.

# 66

We mourn the Queen to mark a staging post in our national story

# NEWMAN'S WEEK





"There's a Prince Andrew in the room."



"Long live the Burger King!"



"Shame we're banned from the Olympics!"

# Adam Wagner

# Protest may be rude but it's not worth an arrest

he truth will set you free,"
said Gloria Steinem, "but
first it will piss you off."
Quite a few people felt that
sentiment about
protesters expressing
republican views at events
last week. And those
protesters have been equally perturbed

by the proclamation of a new King.

The police have been caught in the middle and seem to have overreached. A woman in Edinburgh was charged with a breach of the peace after holding up a sweary sign expressing republican sentiments, a man was arrested for shouting "Who elected him?" at a proclamation event in Oxford, and a barrister protesting outside parliament was threatened with arrest for holding a blank piece of paper, but only if he wrote "Not my King" on it.

Everyone agrees that freedom of speech is important. That's easy. The difficulty is deciding how to manage protests in public spaces. Protests can be disruptive, offensive – even annoying. But the point of a protest is to get people's attention. Sometimes that means being provocative.

"Rights worth having are unruly things," Lord Justice Laws said in a case about protests against nuclear weapons. "Demonstrations and protests are liable to be a nuisance. They are liable to be inconvenient and tiresome, or at least perceived as such by others who are out of sympathy with them." But, he said, the government's "shoulders are surely broad enough to cope".

Peaceful protest is often how ideas are challenged. We all benefit, even when this challenge happens at times of great public emotion. And that's the problem with protesting against the monarchy – often the best opportunities to get people's attention are during family functions. The objection arises: this isn't the time. To which protesters respond: if not now, when?

To add to the complication, in the age of culture wars it is easy for people to confuse support for free speech with support for the cause of the protest. This is a mistake – if we don't support the right of people to speak out on causes we disagree with, we can hardly complain when they don't support us.

What are police to do? Being offensive or disrespectful isn't against the law. If there is no likelihood of violence, police should leave well alone.



# The new restrictions are increasing tension between police and citizens

But this government has muddied the waters. Until this year, the focus was on section 5 of the Public Order Act 1986 which prohibits using "threatening or abusive words or behaviour or disorderly behaviour", or displaying any writing, sign or visible representation which is "threatening or abusive". There is a defence of "reasonable excuse", which can include expressing your

rights to freedom of speech.

Now, added to that, is the new statutory offence of causing "public nuisance" in the Policing Crime,
Sentencing and Courts Act, which can include causing "serious annoyance".
This provision is vague and moves our criminal law further from the laudable aim of preventing violence and towards a point where the police become the arbiters of public decency.

This may prevent some "annoying" protests going ahead, but in the most part it will only serve to increase tension between the police and citizens trying to express themselves.

During the summer of 2020, an exception to Covid restrictions was permitted for outdoor socially distanced protest. But in the autumn, as cases began to climb, the exception was removed. Although protest was never explicitly banned, the Metropolitan Police behaved as if it was. That led to women being physically removed from the vigil after the death of Sarah Everard. This year, the High Court ruled that the police's actions had been unlawful, breaching the protesters' rights to freedom of assembly.

Police certainly shouldn't be arresting people for holding up signs, even if they are a bit rude. But the police are between a rock and hard place, because of the state the government has left the law in. The monarchy is a fundamental part of our identity. So is the right to free speech. We can find a way to respect both – and that's the truth.

Adam Wagner is a barrister at Doughty Street Chambers. His debut book, Emergency State: How We Lost Our Freedoms in the Pandemic and Why it Matters, is published on October 13.

# Robert Colvile

# It may look like heartless Conservatism, but trying to spur growth is morally right



avid Cameron once told his party conference he could explain his priorities in three letters: "N-H-S". The key to understanding Liz Truss's government is that she would make exactly the same claim. But her three letters would be very different: G-D-P.

It's not exactly news that Britain has a growth problem. David Smith has written dozens of columns for this paper on the topic, and I'm not far behind. But Truss and her new chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, view this not just as one problem among many, but the only problem that ultimately matters.

That's why, when people talk about this as an ideological government, they are more right than they know. The ideology is growth, driven by supplyside reform of the economy. Kwarteng dispensed with Tom Scholar, his chief civil servant, and set a new 2.5 per cent growth target because he believes the Treasury has become too focused, over a period of decades, on sharing out the cake rather than increasing its size.

The moment that really signalled a new approach came when Truss was interviewed by Laura Kuenssberg the day before her victory was announced. She was confronted with a chart

showing that her proposed national insurance cuts would predominantly advantage the rich. She didn't blink. "What I am about is growing the economy," she said. "And growing the economy benefits everyone."

This might sound obvious. But in a political context, it is revolutionary. British politics, and British economic analysis, has become obsessed with dividing up the proceeds of what meagre growth we have had. Every tax change is the subject of endless distributional graphs, showing whether it will help or hurt this group or that. And anything that helps the rich more than the poor has been firmly off the table.

Truss, by contrast, was making the same argument as her icon Margaret Thatcher: the best way to help the poor is to make everyone richer. As Thatcher said in 1979: "We can improve our position as a nation only by working together to create greater wealth. We cannot do it by each fighting for a bigger share of the existing cake. The cake is too small; the fight too damaging; and the result, impoverishment, cynicism, and conflict."

The new government, in short, embraces what you might call Marie Kondo Conservatism. The decluttering expert urges her acolytes to ask of every object in their homes: "Does it spark joy?" The Truss-Kwarteng approach is to ask of every policy: "Does it spark growth?" And on that front, Friday's fiscal statement is intended to be a big show of intent. One insider describes the plan as "shock and awe", with measures on tax and energy accompanied by a wider package of structural reforms to get the economy moving.

For many observers, this approach is politically incendiary. At a time when millions of people are struggling to pay the bills, the government is cancelling tax rises for big corporations and removing limits on bankers' bonuses. It is the very caricature of heartless Conservatism.

But Truss is not stupid. You don't become the longest-serving minister in cabinet, or the leader of your party, without political antennae. She is gambling on several fronts: first, that her measures will work, at least by the next election. Second, that voters will appreciate a leader who acts out of conviction, rather than twitching at every hint of displeasure from the focus groups. Third, that people will accept that the country is in such a state that drastic measures are not just necessary but welcome.

It is easy to see the potential pitfalls.



## **Britain's economy** is on course to be overtaken by Poland's. We are living poorer, meaner lives

In order to get through any legislation, Truss will need to clear space in a monumentally overstuffed legislative calendar. Each Johnson-era bill thrown out will have its defenders, who will argue that the government is inflicting horrible damage on the nation's children/puppies/grannies (delete as appropriate). The polls are unfavourable. Her backbenches are

heaving with MPs who voted for other candidates, or had leadership aspirations themselves. The Lords may vote her measures down, especially if they weren't in the party's manifesto. Energy prices may spike again. China may invade Taiwan. Borrowing costs may rise. Her programme of deregulation and tax cuts may stoke inflation further, as Rishi Sunak repeatedly warned. Workers may strike. Voters may mutiny over the state of the NHS. A bright but inexperienced No 10 team may find itself struggling to reform the civil service, which has used the cover of the Whitehall reshuffle to perform a textbook land grab.

Set against that, however, is one very simple point: Truss and Kwarteng are right.

A few months back, I wrote a column warning that Britain has turned into Japan. But it may be even worse than that. Annual GDP growth per capita has fallen from 2.5 per cent in the 1980s to 1.1 per cent in the years before the pandemic. As the economist Gerard Lyons points out, that is the difference between doubling every 30 years and doubling every 65. The average Briton is now two thirds as rich as the average American. Our economy is on course to be overtaken by Poland's.

This isn't just a statistical tragedy, but a human one. Britain's people are leading poorer, meaner lives than they should and could - especially our young people, who have been subjected to a relentless battering. Yet we carp and cavil if anyone tries to do things that might make us richer: fixing our planning system, building infrastructure and energy projects, relaxing childcare rules and business regulations, removing limitations on investment, and so on and endlessly on.

Growth, in short, is a moral issue. One of the reasons that it is so easy to overregulate, to refuse planning permission, to stifle entrepreneurialism, is that it seems like a victimless crime. But impeding growth punishes not just our future selves, but everyone else around us. Raising corporation tax or national insurance might seem like clawing back cash from the rich. But the burden falls on everyone's pay packets and savings.

The government is not promising an economic boom – in fact, the immediate priority is simply to avoid recession. But ultimately, Truss and Kwarteng want to leave Britain not just a richer but a fastergrowing nation. It is too early to tell whether they will succeed. But Britain will be a far better place if they do. @RColvile

been thinking of spending

brand. It's an exceptional

Studham, Bedfordshire

Tesla's electric fantasy

Your story "Shock news on

(News, last week) reports a

call to cut the VAT rate on

by owners of £100,000

reflects the cost of the

vehicle; and lose their

vehicles contribute to

shift emissions to power

Rob Hindle, Sheffield

cost of charging electric cars"

electricity for the hard-done-

Teslas. In exchange, will they

please repay the plug-in car grant of up to £5,000; start

paying road tax at a rate that

exemption from the London

congestion charge? Electric

congestion and they are not

"zero emission"; they simply

stations that burn fossil fuels.

branches 15ft up.

Robert Wilkin

£100 on one from the leading

tool, cutting through 5in oak

# **LETTERS** TO THE EDITOR

# sunday-times.co.uk Even Clarkson could not support King Andrew

Jeremy Clarkson waxes lyrical on the virtues of monarchy and this is easy to do after the death of a Queen who was perhaps one of our greatest monarchs ("Long live the King – so much better than a pesky president", Comment, last week). He might have found it more difficult if we were now preparing for the reign of, say, a King Andrew and, unlike in the case of an unsatisfactory prime minister, we had no way of getting rid of him. Kathy Ridges Northchurch, Hertfordshire

**Least worst option** 

Yes, monarchy is illogical and perhaps somewhat ridiculous. But that's what we have had for more than 1,000 years, and with centuries of tinkering we've made it work pretty well.

If republicans wish to abolish the monarchy, fine. But before we embark on such an upheaval, we must be certain that the replacement system will be better. So far the republicans have failed to demonstrate that it will be. Mike Gray, Wimborne, Dorset

Charles needs to

look past church

When our new King mentions

faith, he uses the dismissive

phrase "and of none" to refer

to the majority of his people.

Christian country. Most of us

Our system of government

are atheist or agnostic and

should reflect that fact. If

King Charles III is to be truly

representative of the nation,

surely the time has come for

the monarchy to loosen its

I read your article decoding

the King's first speech with

great interest ("Secrets of the

King's speech: what he said -

and what he meant", News,

last week). However, I was

analyse the vital phrase

saddened that you failed to

links with the Church of

Britain is no longer a

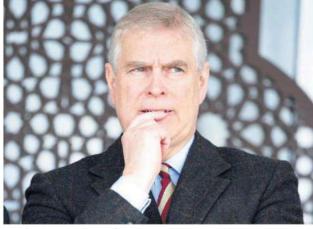
certainly not church-

attenders.

England.

Ronald Forrest

Wells, Somerset



But for an accident of birth, Andrew could have been King

Just as bumblebees were once thought to be incapable of flight in theory, and yet they fly, our monarchy is the epitome of a system that doesn't work in theory but does work, magnificently, in practice. Alan Hawkes, Saffron Walden

A monarch is for life

It is ludicrous for Clarkson to compare the ceremonial role of a monarch to the chief executive role of the US or

"throughout the remaining

time God grants me", which

it is God who grants us the

reminding us that God is the

reassuring to be told by the

new King himself that he

commitment to the church

Vicar of Southwater Parish

years of our life and was

source of that life. It is

shares his mother's

and to matters of faith.

The Rev Godfrey Kesari

Church, West Sussex

For goodness' sake

is on shaky ground in

"just celebritydom"

(Comment, last week).

side-swipes at the non-

David Simmonds, Woking

religious, Rod!

Much though I love Rod

asserting that a monarchy

that does not believe in a

power higher than itself is

Atheists are just as capable

of being good and humble

as everyone else. Stop your

Liddle's excoriating satire, he

He was acknowledging that

the King used quite

deliberately.

French president. One has no

therefore not divisive; the

political power and is

other does and is. Clarkson makes the facetious point that we might end up with Alan Sugar as our elected president. This can just as easily be countered by the fact that, through an accident of birth, we might have got Andrew or Harry as king – and still could, in theory. Robert Ball, Hythe, Kent

In a word, our late

ruler was good

Like Richard Coles, I have

as "Elizabeth the Great"

("Elizabeth has earned an

epithet. Here's the one I'd

choose", News, last week).

the Good" would be more

appropriate. It is less

grandiose and beyond

was an inherently good

Gas-guzzling

families, pay up

Those who use little energy

system ("Why are our energy

prices so complex?", News,

This year my standing

charges alone will cost me

virtually the same as my

are heavily penalised for

their frugality under our

last week).

I suggest that "Elizabeth

dispute: from all we know she

person; she was undeniably

remembering our late queen

reservations about

Clarkson beseeches us to

'find me one president who's not mad or incontinent or both". Look no further than across the Irish Sea: Michael D Higgins, and before him Mary McAleese and Mary Robinson.

Careful what you wish for

republic for the sheer joy of

realise that the favourites to

Clarkson and Boris Johnson.

Chris Eglinton, London SW1

seeing the angst of republican

It is almost worth having a

campaigners when they

be president are Jeremy

Irish example

A president who is head of state but not head of government can have a democratic mandate, which a hereditary monarch cannot. Mary Pimm and Nik Wood London E9

Protectorate racket An American visitor once asked my father when we Brits would modernise and install a president. After a moment's hush, he was reminded that we had tried such a system three centuries ago and that it had taken us

good at her job; and, as the

response to her death around

the world has shown, she was

undoubtedly good for the UK.

Coles's choice, "Elizabeth the

A friend of mine, who had

not read Coles's fine article,

question and came up with a

suggestion that is similar but

previous year. Is it not time to

reward those consumers who

consumption, and penalise

those who are extravagant?

We should reduce standing

charges and increase the cost

for every unit used above the

household average of 12,000

units of gas and 2,900 units of

asked herself the same

entire energy bill for the

do their best to reduce

electricity.

Dutiful", does capture the

defining feature of her life,

but it does not trip off the

Stephen J Lockwood

Deganwy, Conwy

**Ours faithfully** 

tongue.

only 12 years to realise we had made a mistake. Peter Inson East Mersea, Essex

The Sunday Times,

Email: letters@

1 London Bridge Street, London SE19GF

**Trump card** 

During the Queen's reign, America's heads of state have included Richard Nixon, Bill Clinton and Donald Trump. The contrast speaks volumes. David Tower, Canada

Listing the monarch's future of civic centre and village hall visits, Clarkson sums up his duties thus: "His job is to be kind." What a wonderful and wise observation. Rupert Stubbs, Bristol

**Proud subject** 

Clarkson says being proud to be British is "wonky". I was born and raised American but have lived in the UK for 43 years and am now a British citizen. I chose this country, love it deeply and am proud to be British. It is wonderful, not wonky, to take pride in being part of such a great nation. Long live the King! Vicki Goodwin Frant, East Sussex

flows a little better:

Barbara Mascetti

Love and loss

"Elizabeth the Faithful".

What a beautifully written

be much missed by his old

"Elizabeth the Beloved".

"Elizabeth the Steadfast"

would capture the most

**Nuclear negligence** 

important aspect of her reign.

Anne Talvaz, Les Lilas, France

While nuclear energy is not a

panacea, that it now accounts

for a mere 19 per cent of total

against France's 66 per cent -

is a national disgrace. In the

1950s and 1960s the UK was a

pioneer in nuclear generation.

How did we allow ourselves

to fall so far behind?

Stuart Oldham

UK electricity generation -

**Reigning steadily** 

piece. Coles's sermons must

congregation. I would suggest

Sarah Johnson, London W12

Takeley, Hertfordshire

### **BIRTHDAYS**

Frankie Avalon, singer, 82 Sol Campbell, footballer, 48 **Dame Siobhan Davies**, choreographer, 72 Tara Fitzgerald, actress, 55 Jason Gardener, sprinter, 47 Darren Gough, cricketer, 52 Tim McInnerny, actor, 66 Anna Netrebko, soprano, 51 Steven Pinker, cognitive psychologist, 68 Peter Shilton, goalkeeper, 73



# ANNIVERSARIES

1955 UK makes final territorial expansion by formally claiming uninhabited islet of Rockall Manchester police officers killed while responding to report of burglary 2014 Referendum on independence in Scotland

No justice for

Review, last week) was

victims of NHS

Merope Mills's article on the

"shocking mistakes" that led

to her daughter's death (News

beautifully written. It was also

a powerful reminder that the

NHS causes avoidable harm

and death to thousands of

people every year and the

way families are treated after

We cannot solve systemic

such tragedies is sometimes

problems without changing

the culture of defensiveness

and blame. Achieving a "just

culture" in the NHS is vital,

but that should mean more

professionals. Patients and

families also deserve fairness.

Yet ministers are openly

talking about legal "reforms"

that would diminish access to

like hers. The very people the

expected to save it money by

redress. So much for a "just

Peter Walsh, chief executive,

justice precisely for families

NHS harms would be

culture".

sacrificing their right to

than being fair to health

appalling.

### **POINTS**

Hogwarts and all I'm sure Kenneth Branagh will have done an excellent job of portraying Boris Johnson (Magazine, last week) but I think he was halfway there when he played Gilderoy Lockhart in Harry

Potter and the Chamber of Secrets: a blond-haired, bumbling, pompous fool who advised Harry, "Celebrity is as celebrity does.'

Ali Kelman, Fetcham, Surrey

**Dead funny** 

Your reviewer Joan Smith accuses Richard Osman of patronising older readers in his Thursday Murder Club series (Books, Culture, last week). I am 78 and they don't patronise me. They are well written and amusing. The review presents us with another mystery: where has Smith mislaid her sense of humour? Anne Paterson Farnham, Surrey

**Lidl helper** 

You are spot-on about the surprising usefulness of the "middle of Lidl" (News, last week). I happened on a £12.99 extendable branchpruner there a couple of years ago, just when I had

Arrogance can kill

Mills's harrowing account

of medical arrogance. It

should be compulsory

highlights the consequences

reading, each year, for every

medical student and doctor.

Dr David Jeffrey, Malvern

**Keep doctors grounded** 

This heart-rending piece

made me angrier than any

article in recent times. The

treated Mills's 13-year-old

displayed by the medics who

In the aviation industry

staff undergo crew resource

management (CRM) training

"godlike captain" behaving

dangerously. The object is to

which the most junior crew

member feels able to speak

up – nobody holds ultimate

refreshers – is a disgrace. If

they were, Martha might still

That medical professionals

specifically to stop the

create an atmosphere in

are not required to take

similar training – with

Airline pilot (retired)

Rye, East Sussex

hierarchical arrogance

daughter, Martha, is

breathtaking.

### Voice of reason

Camilla Long's article on the scenes around Buckingham Palace, "Pink hair, marmalade, lime hotpants – typical British understatement" (Comment, last week), was a welcome counterbalance to the adulatory hysteria that now dominates the media. Her comment that the new King "will be made something out of nothing ... as his mother was" is particularly apposite. Douglas Kedge

Oxfordshire

Sonning Common

**Misplaced mockery** Maybe you needed to offer an antidote to some of the hyperbole, but did we need Long's cynical mockery in such a prominent place? Her ramblings do not become you. A small corner towards the back would have been more suitable. Lesley Woodfield, York

Letters should arrive by midday on Thursday and include the full address and a phone number. We may edit letters, which must be exclusive to The Sunday Times

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## JOIN THE CONVERSATION ONLINE

It was a tough week to be a humorist, but ours rose to the occasion magnificently, you thought. "Excellent – I love the corgi at the foot of the coffin," was PigsEye's verdict on Morland's cartoon. "I think the corgi is us," wrote jkfox27, and for Abundans the dog "adds the gentlest touch of humour to a solemn

scene". SW applauded its

"impeccable taste". Newman hit the right note too. "Laughed myself silly over 'What do you do?'. Just brilliant," raved **Jules** about the cartoon of HM greeting St Peter. "Am I the only person who finds the aliens with black armbands surprisingly moving?" asked QED99.

too. "Our Rod can combine good sense and acerbic wit

Our writers were on form

with – dare I say it – grace when he wants to," remarked **Gradgrind**. "For a lad from the Boro, Liddle does have a way with words," echoed Peter Forster. "Charles's speech on the day after he became King was pitch

perfect. So is Clarkson's column," saluted **ome** 

Alistair Nicoll, Sheffield

ago, but readers were still playing "What's the weirdest thing you take on holiday?". Paul Monks kicked off: "When I was head of a travel insurance company, we had a

The holidays seem an age

holiday to Morocco so she could watch a British soap opera. Her claim was based on the TV not working properly." El Pres was our winner, though: "The last time I went overseas I wished I'd taken the upright piano.

The passports were on it." Finally, there was much

Action Against Medical Okehampton, Devon Accidents, Croydon Your comments from thesundaytimes.co.uk taken a portable TV on grumbling under our report on the train operator Avanti.

> To all those taking the train this weekend: good luck

JanD recalled "enjoyable trips to London with Virgin. It was £99 return for a family from Wigan. Now our electric car is the only affordable way for us to make the journey."

wisdom.

be alive.

Terry Tozer

Have your say at sundaytimes.co.uk/poll

There was no Readers' Poll in last week's Sunday Times. Our poll on September 4 asked: "Is the process for choosing our new PM an affront to democracy?

## **READERS' POLL**

This week's question: **Does** life get better after 45?

13%. 13,944 readers voted

## COMMENT

# Camilla Long

# Think the royals have no power? Just look at our toadying ministers and supine BBC



hat a flabbergasting, thundering ten days it has been. The monstrous wait to see the Queen's coffin - or so some royal spin doctor tells us - has now reached 24 hours. Tomorrow, we will go into further lockdown; radio and television will be taken over; the skies over London will be closed as Heathrow lays off flights. As my boyfriend said: "But isn't plane noise what the Queen would have wanted? Windsor is directly under a flight path. She'd find it reassuring."

We all know it is mad. The excuse for these insanities - most unforgivably, the cancellation of cancer appointments - is that the Queen deserves it. Part of me agrees. To give over one's life to live in a strange gilded petting zoo on behalf of the nation is remarkable: it is an amazing sacrifice.

But the other part of me thinks it is seriously bizarre that we become this obsessed hermit kingdom whenever something significant happens to a group of people few of us have met. The argument is: oh, but they don't have any power – can't they have their little parade? But if we learnt anything last week, it is that they do have power, they are not victims, and their power is

Just look at the hysteria and the trumpets, the military displays, the gold, the brocade, the fanfare – this is not a family whose ego is diminishing. Charles, sitting on a huge gold throne in Westminster Hall, found the Speaker's talk of "revolutions" hilarious.

The Queen, of course, didn't seem powerful, because, helpfully, she was a woman. She started her reign as a timid, faltering "priggish schoolgirl", in the words of Lord Altrincham: it was a brilliant feint. Charles isn't so lucky: he is 73 and comes with baggage. Technically the monarch can refuse a prime minister, but you just knew his mother never would. I can see Charles wondering ... if he might.

If you read any of his "black spider" memos, though you'll see it's not just him that's the problem. His input is mostly inoffensive, niche obsessional

stuff about Shackleton's hut and herbal medicines. The problem is all the other people: the sycophants and flopsies who are falling over themselves to curry

favour and do whatever the royals wish. Don't tell me, as leaders scramble at the highest level to attend the funeral, that these are people who don't get exactly what they want all the time.

Tony Blair can barely contain himself in a letter about homeopathy: "We can do quite a lot here," he gushes, almost by return of post. "We will be consulting with your contacts."

Before Blair, Labour tolerated the royals; they were rolled out, opiate-like, while the politicians got on with serious business. Blair, by contrast, loved them and used them for personal publicity: this attitude is now the norm. Liberals fall on the royals as much as Tories, viewing them, sentimentally, as a kind of cultural wing of the NHS. It is a fascinating dereliction of duty on the part of the left.

Ministers and civil servants are "very obsequious" towards the royals, a former cabinet minister tells me, allowing a "spider's web network of gentle influence". They want knighthoods; the system is set up for deference; there remains, for example, an entire minister, the chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, currently Nadhim Zahawi, whose task it is, among others, to look after the sovereign and his estates. Why do we even still have that?

Tories, especially, have made it their life's mission to preserve the Queen's riches, just out of mad love – thanks to them, Charles will inherit about £650 million tax free. I can't see Zahawi saying no to anything: he couldn't even say no to the infamous President's Ball, "an elite, men-only charity dinner" at the Dorchester at which boob jobs were auctioned off to businessmen.

Politicians are drawn by the glamour, of course, but they covet the sheer reach as well. For Liz Truss, the opportunity to glom on to Charles in his moment of grief proved irresistible – the perfect soft launch. Now that he has let her fly on his coattails, what will she have to do

As for the media – well, you can forget them. Most television networks



Politicians are drawn by the glamour of the royals and its reach, while civil servants always have their eye on a knighthood



# Liberals fall on the royal family, viewing them as a kind of cultural wing of the NHS

prostrate themselves in search of ratings. If you want an idea of the royals' power over journalists, David Dimbleby told us recently that the BBC "is more scared of the Palace than it is of No 10". Why? Because, the monarch is permanent, he claimed. But I didn't buy it. The real reason is that the BBC simply cannot do without them

It cannot do without the access and the right to stream serious events. It cannot do without their approval and co-operation, which means they make decisions based on this. Proper journalists think: if we can't get rid of something, isn't that more of a reason to challenge it?

The BBC thinks: let's all talk like hushed, frightened children for 240 hours straight. Let's not focus on anything inconvenient. Let's suppress Diana's interview with Panorama, because William said so. Dimbleby wasn't even allowed to use it in a segment about how awful the interview actually was. Think what you like about the lying Martin Bashir, but erasing a historical fact is appalling.

It is like ignoring everything Anne Boleyn said at her trial because we now know the people who ran it told

It isn't that I expect the royals to get the people to sign off on everything, but the myth that they are powerless is just that. The Queen did a wonderful job but I wonder how much would have been done if she hadn't.

## Vogue's love-in with Chalamet accessorises boredom with baloney

Who'd be a young guy in Hollywood? You are stripped naked, picked over, made to look ugly when you aren't.

Vogue's new photoshoot with the film star Timothée Chalamet is alarming: who knew the beautiful man could look this dirty and hairy and sad and thin? But that's not all. So excited is the magazine to have him as their "first solo male cover star" - more of which later he has been interviewed by nearly every male member

He must not only submit to a formal interview with the magazine for his role as a "cannibal drifter", he must listen to the editor, Edward Enninful, telling him "you represent the zeitgeist", or "you're on such a trajectory in your acting career" in a video, while comparing each other's teeth.

This isn't interviewing, I thought, as I watched it: it is the world's most boring, vacant foreplay.

Why do fashion people lap up this hilarious baloney? Why don't they point out the emperor has no clothes? As for Chalamet being Vogue's first male cover star - just

We have a King now — a man who actually takes a serious interest in fashion. Wouldn't he be a bit more obvious? Why does Vogue have to have a male cover star, anyway? Is it because it is now run by men?

# Week ending



# The greatest landscape you'll see — and it's only a few hours away

It's a strange quirk of living in England that we share an island with arguably the most beautiful place on earth, yet few of us ever go there. It took a Canadian wedding

of all things to bring me back to the Highlands recently. Apologies to those for whom this is blindingly obvious but, my God, it's gorgeous

I feel the same combination of wonder and shame every time I visit; wonder at this shudderingly beautiful, impossibly lush collection of lochs, glens and bens; shame that this place is on my doorstep and yet I so rarely visit.

The drive from Inverness to Skye is worth the ticket price alone. You hug Loch Ness close for the first leg, scanning the water for a sneaky glimpse of Nessy. Then it's past Urquhart Castle and into the peaty vastness of the Highlands.

The landscape isn't quite as immense as New Zealand or the Rockies, but something about the way it crowds in on you, rearing up over the road and demanding your

A few years back, I

interviewed the British

his book on the 2008

historian Adam Tooze about

financial crisis. His thesis

Anglo-American populism

was a delayed response to

generated gave us Corbyn, Trump, Bernie, Brexit.

the crisis. The resentment it

What will happen, then, if

we strip the next generation

of its freedoms, financial

future and environmental

UK Onward found that

wellbeing? A recent poll by

61 per cent of 18 to 34-year-

UK with a "strong leader

bode well.

olds supported running the

who doesn't have to bother

with parliament/elections". Which doesn't exactly

was that 2016's burst of

attention, strikes a deeper emotional chord.

Why don't we come every year, I asked my mother. Well, she said, putting her rain hat on and swatting at the midges, I like to be warm on my holidays. Which is a fair point. But I also think we're guilty of contempt for the familiar: it doesn't sound impressive to say you're going to the Highlands and there are no great cultural surprises in store when you get there. Which means it's strangely underrated, at least by thick

One unexpected effect that the pandemic has had on me is I've become addicted to "bro" hugs Previously I reserved this form of greeting for close male friends only, but now I find myself handing them out like an Indian-hugging saint.

The other day I had lunch with a relatively distant work contact, someone I'd only met once before. It was a pleasant, low key affair: caesar salads, diet cokes, a long chat about world

At the end he put out his hand for a goodbye handshake, but for some reason I ignored his proffered paw and wrapped him in a bear hug. It was weird and we both

knew it. Why do I keep doing this? I think it's because I developed such an aversion to the handshake over the long course of the pandemic. Now we are happily touching again, but I seem to have unconsciously skipped the handshake and moved onto the full man embrace.

If you find yourself on the end of one of these, I can only apologise.

**Succession is** 

# Nominations open

The Sunday Times Sportswomen of the Year Awards are back. But who will you back? Be sure to nominate your favourite sportswoman of the moment.



## Look away now, kids. Our legacy is being revealed

Jewish new year is coming up soon, so I appeared on a "year in review" panel at my synagogue with some esteemed fellow journalists. This year, where to begin?! We ran through the gamut of our deepening permacrisis: politics, pandemic, inflation, energy,

Afterwards, a precocious 11-year-old came up to me and expressed concern about the energy price freeze. Would his generation end up paying for it? Umm, yes, I'm afraid.

It did make me wonder, though. What will the political reaction be to all the manure we're heaping upon the younger

**NEWMAN'S** 

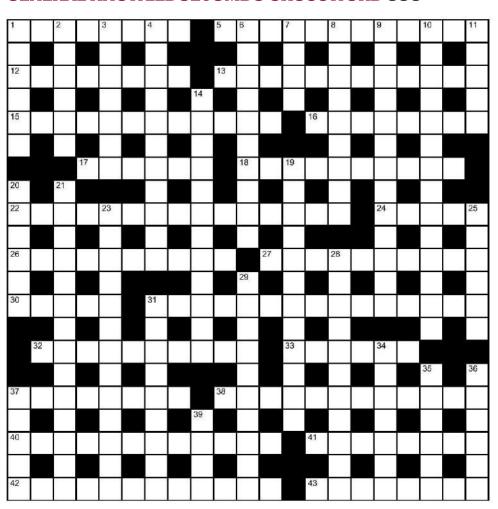


where it has meagre ratings. Instead many millions are tuning into Yellowstone, the Kevin Costner-led modern western about raunchy ranchers slaughtering each other in the wilds of Montana. It's absurd, hammy and far less clever than its Emmy-winning rival. But if you want to watch plastered cowgirls getting into savage bar fights (and I assure you that you do), I couldn't recommend it more highly.



Comments about our puzzles can be sent to puzzle.feedback@sunday-times.co.uk or Puzzles Editor, The Sunday Times, 1 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9GF

## **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE JUMBO CROSSWORD 336**



#### **Across**

- 1 African capital founded as a settlement for liberated slaves (8) **5** Form of football invented at a public school (4,4,4) (pictured)
- 12 In biology, having multiple small branches (8)
- **13** Dish of toast with a cheese-based sauce (5,7)
- 15 Primo Levi novel first published in 1982 as Se non ora, quando? (2,3,3,4)
- **16** "In recent years we have been served up a lot of \_\_\_ about the need for a national identity. We have been urged to sing imbecile jingles ..." (Patrick White) (8)
- 17 Fairy tale woodcutter's daughter who kills a witch (6) **18** "No admittance. Not even \_\_\_ personnel. You are wasting
- your time here. Go away." (Douglas Adams) (10)
- 22 Dog breed originally used to "flush" game from cover (8,7) **24** 1983 cross-dressing Barbra Streisand film (5)
- **26** Man-eater nicknamed "the wastebasket of the sea" (5,5) 27 "I am of course notoriously hooked on \_\_\_. I keep hoping
- the things will kill me" (Kurt Vonnegut) (10) 30 "If a topic makes you [...] laugh, or sigh, or \_
- physically in any way you have a winner" (Scott Adams, Dilbert cartoonist) (5)
- **31** Actress whose younger brother is Warren Beatty (7,8) **32** One word for making someone a member of the clergy (10) **33** Norman \_\_\_ is an archenemy of Spider-Man (6)
- **37** "Liberal my views upon religion and race; / Tax-posture, credit-rating, social ambition / \_\_\_ with me." (WH Auden) (3,2,3)
- 38 Film in which Marlon Brando plays Sky Masterson (4,3,5)
- **40** Zayn Malik left this X-Factor-created boyband in 2015 (3,9) **41** Milled durum wheat product
- used to make polenta (8) 42 American stand-up comedian who has starred in a sitcom and talk show with their forename in the title (8,4)
- **43** Positions associated with comfort, action or panic (8)

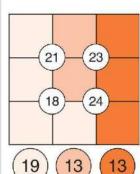


#### Down

- 1 Sobriquet shared by a duchess and an ex-football manager (6)
- 2 White fur traditionally worn in the House of Lords (6) **3** Satellite used in the first transatlantic broadcast (7)
- 4 Body parts which normally become visible after age 17 (6,5)
- **6** Politician who claimed the naughtiest thing she'd done was to run through fields of wheat as a child (7,3)
- 7 Independent US government agency founded in 1958 chiefly as a response to the launch of Sputnik (4)
- 8 The 1957 Panorama news report on the spaghetti harvest in Switzerland's Ticino canton was an example of this (5,4)
- **9** Baroness Evans of Bowes Park is the current \_\_\_ (4,5,4) 10 Former patent clerk who won a 1921 Nobel prize (6,8)
- 11 "Shall worms, inheritors of this excess, / \_\_\_ thy charge?" (Shakespeare) (3,2)
- 14 Song which won the inaugural (and last) Grammy award for the best disco recording in 1980 (1,4,7)
- **19** Authority responsible for lightship maintenance (7,5)
- **20** Primary goddess of Babylonians and Assyrians (6) 21 The \_\_\_gained fame by travelling 120 feet in 12 seconds at Kill Devil Hills in 1903 (6,8)
- 23 Kill Devil Hills and Cape Hatteras are in this US state (5,8) 25 Emanuel \_\_\_ (pictured) was world chess champion for 27
- years (6) 28 Yorkshire playwright who wrote Talking Heads (4,7)
- **29** French for "dish of the day" (4,2,4) **31** "Everybody's Free (To Wear \_\_\_\_)" (1997 spoken word song
- by Baz Luhrmann, quoting Mary Schmich) (9) 34 A British soldier in 1776 or a camp entertainer? (7)
- **35** A weather-affecting warming
- of the Pacific Ocean (2,4) 36 Statuettes designed by art
- director Cedric Gibbons (6)
- **37** "O may I join the \_ invisible. (George Eliot) (5)
- 39 Wikipedia's name for an article too short to provide encyclopaedic coverage (4)



### **SUKO**



Place the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the number in each circle is equal to the sum of the four surrounding spaces, and each colour total is correct.

## **CELL BLOCKS**



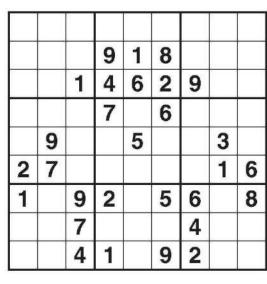
Divide the grid into square or rectangular blocks, each containing one digit only. Every block must contain the number of cells indicated by the digit inside it.

### SUDOKU

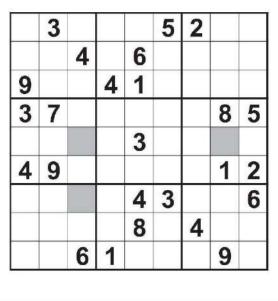
Each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 to 9. Winners will receive a Collins English Dictionary & Thesaurus.

To enter, complete the Very Hard puzzle and call 0901 292 5275 (UK only) (ROI 1516 303 500), leaving your answer (the numbers in the three shaded squares) and contact details. Or text SUNDAY2, followed by a space, then you answer (three numbers) and contact details SUNDAY2 123 John Smith, etc — to 64343 (UK only). Calls cost £1.00 (ROI €1.50) plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. Winners will be picked at random from all correct answers received. Lines close at midnight on Saturday. If you call or text after this time you will not be entered but may be charged. When entering by phone or text, please provide your FULL name and address details, as incomplete entries may be charged but not entered. **STUCK?** Call our clue line to get four clues for the Very Hard puzzle on 0901 293 6265 (ROI 1514 515 120). Calls cost £1 (ROI 76c) plus your telephone company's network access charge. For full terms and conditions, visit thesundaytimes.co.uk/comprules. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm)

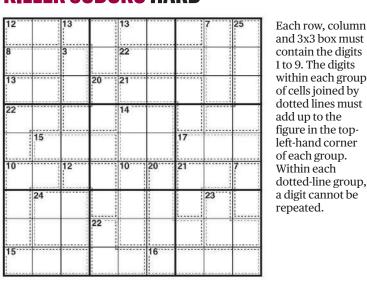
#### **WARM-UP**



#### VERY HARD — PRIZE 1501



## **KILLER SUDOKU HARD**



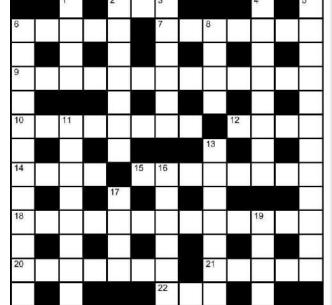
Each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 to 9. The digits within each group of cells joined by dotted lines must add up to the figure in the top-

> letter. Answers must be in the Concise Oxford Dictionary, excluding capitalised words, plurals, conjugated verbs

18 words, average; 24, good; 33, very good; 43, excellent.

**Dean Mayer** 

## **CONCISE CROSSWORD 1800**



- 6 Minimum (5)
- 9 Weakness (13)
- 10 Discernment (8)
- **14** Inveigle (4)
- **18** A little off (3,5,5) **20** Whet (7)
- **21** Put on (5) 22 Unbuttered (3)

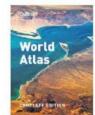
Down

- 1 Cry noisily (4) 2 Challenge (7)
- 3 Horrified (6) 4 Functionary (8)
- **5** Sole, as a child (4-8) 6 Emotional pining (12)
- 8 Crocus relative (4) **11** Err (2,6)
- **13** Turn into stone (7)
- **16** Wait on (6) **17** Sudden rise (4)
- **19** Network (4)

#### puzzle.entries@sunday-times.co.uk The first correct solution picked at random after next

Saturday wins Collins World Atlas: Complete Edition, worth £30.The next four will receive £20 Waterstones gift vouchers. Open to 18+ UK & ROI residents only

The Chambers Dictionary 13th edition is the primary reference. Readers may email comments or queries to puzzle.feedback@sunday-times.co.uk



### Across

- 1 Ruffled cook concealing what's bad (6)
- life (6) **10** Gathering for men being
- old, lacking energy in posture (9, two words)
- **12** Letter just produced, first off(4)
- mess? (4)
- almost eroded (6) 15 Bid made by mean person
- 16 I cut a lump out a
- flowery cluster (9) 17 Old cut offered by markets
- rejected a trick! (9)
- without kids? (9) 25 A new atomiser for
- perfume (9) **27** Clear the foreign weed? (6)
- Library (6) **29** Bird lacking right food (4)
- **30** Agent with ingratiating manner (4)
- green (9) **32** Tiny bird in waste water (6) 33 Redundant old site, derelict, containing

nothing (6)

# Down

- 1 Supporting fashionable
- **2** Change again as dieter taking new course (6)
- 4 Part of chemical to be
- **5** Nasty headless bogey to
- 6 A mother in charge of
- seen as sacred object (6)
- female put in bowl (7)
- 11 Growling maiden in unrestrained display of
- Technology incorporating
- brought up
- 22 Old farm animal 23 Liveliness of goblin,
  - borne by celebrities (6) 26 Happened to get love – a
  - 28 Rare game with large number getting no score (4)

- that is heading north (5)
- sickness (6)
- father initially (6)
- 7 In short time a small egg is
- **8** Silver coin the French
- restrained (11) **18** Applaud Information
- the latest in slick software (7)
- inadequately (6) **21** Everyone must wear fixed
- helmet (6)

NAME

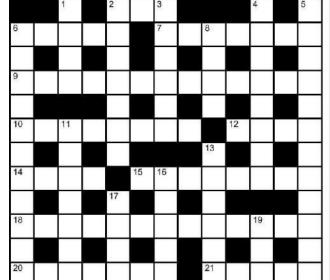
**ADDRESS** 

- 1 Egg producers avoid legislation (9)
- new supporter (5)
- abroad (7)
- 11 Take a little collector's item(3)
- 12 I order parts for European to hang (11)
- with me, too (3,4,7)16 Euphoric days at wild
- material about alcoholic drink (3,3,5)
- 22 Man about to chop a
- bout? (7) 24 Distribute bread rude
- person delivered? (4,3)

**POLYGON** 



always including the central



## Across

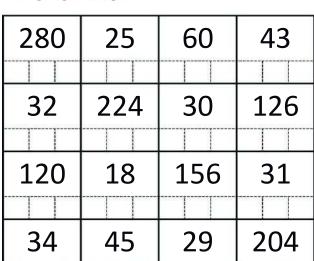
# 2 Reggae variant (3)

# **7** Coarse-haired dog (7)

# 12 Magnitude (4)

## 15 Final defeat (8)

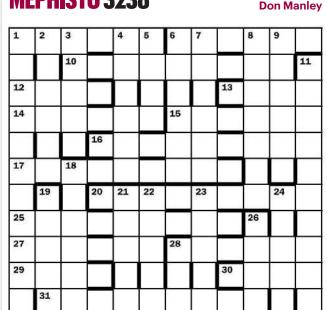
**TETONOR EASY** 



42 1 2 3 12 12 13 16 17 30 Each number in the main grid can be formed by adding or

multiplying a pair of numbers in the strip below the grid. Each pair of numbers should be used twice: once as part of an addition and once as part of a multiplication. For example, a 10 and 24 in the main grid may be solved by the sums, 4 + 6 and 4 x 6, respectively. Enter each sum in the boxes below its answer. Any blanks in the strip must be deduced, bearing in mind the numbers are listed in ascending order.

# **MEPHISTO 3238**



33

NAME **ADDRESS** 

Post your solution to The Sunday Times Mephisto 3238, PO Box 29, Colchester, Essex CO2 8GZ, or email



- **6** A crowd round edge of village with a basic form of
- **13** Roman boy in dog's 14 Imagine identity getting
- wanting minimum of expenditure (6)
- 20 Is woman diminished
- **28** Sign on vehicle recently parked outside Public
- 31 Flow of water seen in journey around one

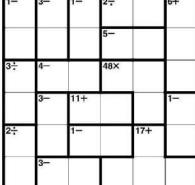
- position, say (11, two words)
- **3** Immigrant in one ship
- effective in upsetting
- disappear, as before? (4)
- **9** Soup bishop tipped over in riotous social occasion? (6)
- temper about to be
- 19 Gloom once of daughter,
- slaughtered for Easter (6)
- making maximum ascent (6) 24 Instruments from India

character ultimately

- relief? (5)

All the digits 1 to 6 must appear in every

# **KENKEN**

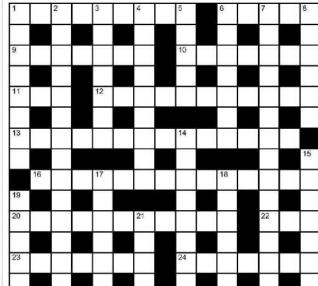


row and column. In each thick-line "block", the target number in the top left-hand corner is calculated from the digits in all the cells in the block, using the operation indicated by the symbol.



(past tense etc), adverbs ending in LY, comparatives and superlatives. How you rate

# **CROSSWORD 5025**



- **Across**
- 6 Opportunity to welcome
- **9** Love poetry by one
- **10** Busy as one caught interrupting supply (7)
- 13 A loyal following always
- rave (4,5,5) **20** Gulf Radio host has
- tree (3) 23 Result of topless drinking
- **25** Amateur construction to gather dry air (5) **26** A single pinny's hem covers the lady's skirt (9)

- Down 1 Takes one home and falls
- 2 Being a pleasure giver? (8,7) 3 Wild party? I will crack that code (7) 4 New partner for Pete in

asleep (5,3)

- plain Welsh town (9) **5** Exclusive small shop (5) 6 Fixes penalties following case of damage (7)
- 7 A place like Italy can rule out working in cold snap (7-4,4) 8 Find right area and lines
- **14** Film performer's needs after a walk in the park (4,5) **15** TV award's put up with

around it (6)

judge's agreement (8) 17 Family in yard turned unpleasant (7) 18 It shows one's ready to be

Christmas, heading off for

taken home (7)

**19** A beach's length? (6)

21 Magistrate, around



drink (5)

## **CLUE WRITING CONTEST 1935: GRAPEVINE**

cryptic crossword style. The best entry selected after next Saturday wins a £25 Waterstones voucher. Email your entry to puzzle.entries@sunday-times.co.uk.

Eyebrow pencil: Features Editor for The Listener, East End academic, and writer



## You are invited to write a clue for the word above, in our



Winner 1932: David Williams, Corsham, Wiltshire



#### letters are used. Use the initial clues in the code table to work out the rest of the code.

In the grid, each

alphabet - all 26

STUCK? To get

four random extra letter clues, call 09012936266

a letter of the

number represents

(ROI 1514 415128) or text STCLUE to 64343 (UK only). Calls cost £1 (ROI 75c) plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1 plus your

5.30pm).

For a full report, visit the sunday times, co.uk/cluewriting

# **NEWS REVIEW**

# Jeremy Clarkson

# My cut out and keep plan to save the BBC you can have it for free



esigned originally for broadcast only in the north, A Question of Sport was a show hosted by men in jumpers, and delivered to an audience that drank their beer from tankards and liked films with Sid James. It was a simple recipe. While the contestants deliberated over questions about Hull Kingston Rovers, every miner in Yorkshire would shout answers at the screen while

"the wife" did the washing up. Later, after women had got the vote, Sue Barker came along with a bit of Home Counties jam and tea-with-thevicar polish. But the recipe stayed the same, so as soon as the theme music started, everyone would rush upstairs to channel their inner Coleman and break out the Pringle.

Then someone at the BBC decided that instead of chaps in snazzy pullies answering fun questions about sport, they'd fill the studio with a bunch of people who do a lot of shouting in regional accents. And what's happened? Yup, in the ratings battle, the once mighty A Question of Sport was beaten recently by a Channel 5 show about farm shops.

The problem for the BBC seems big. To attract a younger audience, it thinks it has to employ younger producers and presenters. Which is why, in recent times, we've waved goodbye, not only to the lovely Sue Barker, but also to Roger Bolton from Radio 4, Vanessa Feltz, Paul O'Grady and Simon Mayo. Soon, Steve Wright in the Afternoon will become Steve Wright in the Afterlife, and Ken Bruce must be soiling himself with worry that he's next.

Now obviously, you can't keep on employing people until there are flies buzzing around the dribble of urine they've left on the studio floor – Biden is proof of that – but some of those being machinegunned into commercial and

podcast obscurity are a long way from incontinence. They are simply being removed to make way for zany youngsters who can say "wagwan" without sounding daft.

The idea, of course, is that younger people will more readily identify with these younger faces and immediately put away their YouTubes and their Amazon Primes and their TikToks and start watching The One Show instead. Sounds sensible except for one thing. It ain't going to happen.

The first problem is attitude. If I see a drama has been made by the BBC, I'll keep on flicking through the alternatives because I know it will be a gloomy festival of misery with Acorn Antiques sets and a light dusting of Poliakoff. You can put as many right-on young faces in something like that and it won't make a ha'porth of difference. Kids will remain glued to girls on TikTok flashing their knickers, and rally cars crashing.

The problem here is that lefties are universally miserable. They see no light at the end of the tunnel and no sunlit uplands. It's all grey and gritty and people on council estates being stabbed. And while I know Emily Maitlis thinks the Beeb is run by an agent of the Tory party, let me assure you, it isn't.

When I worked there, I was told to take down a poster of Mrs Thatcher because it was "offensive" and once. I was not allowed into the 5 Live studios



**Hosts removed** to make way for zany youngsters



**Emlyn Hughes, David Coleman** and Bill Beaumont in the golden age of pullovers on A Question of Sport in 1985

because I was carrying a copy of The Spectator which, said the producer, was an "extremist publication".

People like that don't want television to be fun or sexy or exciting. Because that would suggest the country is fun and sexy and exciting and of course, it isn't, because of all the stabbed homeless people on grey, gritty council

Comedy? You mean like Harry and Paul and Fawlty Towers? Nah. They can't broadcast anything funny any more because there are too many rules. And for Saturday evening entertainment shows, they have to guess what the ordinary people of Britain want because when you are living in the TV executive heartland of Camden, you have no idea what an ordinary person even looks like.

And as they continue to abandon an audience that is watching, in a bid to attract an audience that isn't, and never will, things will only get worse. I don't really watch anything on the BBC apart from *Pointless* and that makes the licence fee look like pretty poor value for money.

TODAY'S WEATHER

But the BBC's pitch-perfect coverage of the Queen's death reminds us that this is an institution worth saving, which is why I've prepared this handy cut out 'n' keep guide for the senior management. First things first, get rid of your local radio and then, even more importantly, get rid of scheduling. Why waste money making hours and hours of afternoon makeover shows and radio phone-ins for the people of Coventry? Use it instead to make a smaller amount of blockbuster drama and documentaries, and bung it all out on the iPlayer. Behave more like the big American streaming giants. Let people watch what they want when they want.

And lose the hand-wringing sixth form socialistic misery when you are choosing what shows to show. Don't watch The Boys and think "the Daily Mail would kill us if we made that". Just do it. And don't think "Oh we could never afford to make Game of Thrones" because you get £5.3 billion a year. So you can.

And you could go further. Create an iPlayer channel where anyone with a licence fee can upload anything they want. Get everyone making shows. Be TikTok. Be YouTube. Let people build up a following and then you'll know what ordinary people look like and what they want.

Then stop publishing Gary Lineker's salary, because that sort of thing will drive the talent away. We aren't that interested if we are honest. Just say instead that you pay people a fraction of what they'd get if they defected to the streaming services, raise a knowing eyebrow and leave it at that.

And then mend A Question of Sport by asking everyone to calm down and remember it's a quiz for armchair sports fans who want to see if they know more about football than a footballer. Not a multicoloured ballpit for manic teens.

weatherquest

### **TEASER 3130**

**Andrew Skidmore** 

**Making Squares** 

Liam has nine identical dice. Each die has the usual numbers of spots from 1 to 6

**CHESS** David Howell

becoming trendy, with multiple

Chess960 is once again

tournaments taking place

online and over the board.

Chess960, or Fischer

Random chess, is a variant

named for the number of

different possible starting

positions. The pieces on the

first rank are shuffled within

certain parameters. Each side

must maintain light- and dark-

squared bishops, while the king

must be placed between its two

rooks in order to preserve the

Reykjavik, Iceland, at the end

White: Hikaru Nakamura

Champions Showdown:

Chess 9LX, St. Louis 2022

日の日下を予り日

1111111

The beauty of Chess960 is the

however, mean that caution is

**e5 2 f4** In standard chess this

would be called the King's

required early in the game. 1 e4

lack of need to memorise

reams of opening theory.

Plenty of terrain remains

unexplored. This does,

**Starting position 725** 

Black: Ian Nepomniachtchi

The Chess960 world

championship is set for

concept of castling.

of October.

on the faces, with the numbers of spots on opposite faces adding to 7. He sits at a table and places the dice in a 3x3 square block arrangement.

As I walk round the table I see that (converting numbers of spots to digits) each vertical face forms a different

Gambit. 2...exf4 3 Qxf4 Ne7 4

Ne4 10 Ne5 The greedy 10 Qxf7 is playable, although the queen

lacks squares after 10...Nef6.

The calm 10 a4 is perhaps best,

aiming to develop the rook via

a3. 10...Rxe5! This sacrifice

gives Black total control over

the centre. 11 dxe5 Qxe5 12

Rf1? Too casual. The minor

pieces needed to be developed

with urgency: 12 c3 planning 13

Bc2. 12...a5! The black rook is

suddenly ready to enter the

Nb4 15 Qxd8 Rd6 White has

price. The queen is offside and

16...Rxd1! 17 Rxd1 Nd2+ 18 Bxd2

Of5+ while 16 Of8 runs into 16...

Nd2+17 Bxd2 Rxd2. 16...Qxd6

17 b3 Nd2+ 18 Bxd2 Qxd2 19

Spot the Move 1341:

**企 主** 企

inevitable.

White to play.

t Q

a3 Bf5+ White resigns Mate is

won a piece, but at a heavy

unable to participate in the

Ne2 d5 5 exd5 Nxd5 6 Qf3 Nef67h3Qd68d4Re89Nd3 three-figure square number without a repeating digit.

As Liam looks down he sees six three-digit numbers (reading left to right and top to bottom) formed by the top face of the block, three of which are squares. The total of the six numbers is less than 2000.

#### What is that total?

Colchester, Essex CO2 8GZ or email puzzle.entries@sunday-times.co.uk.

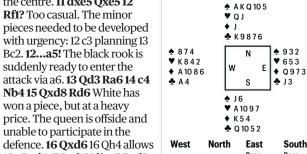
Send your solution to: The Sunday Times Teaser 3130, PO Box 29, The first two correct solutions opened after next Saturday each win a £20 Waterstones voucher. Open to 18+ UK & ROI residents only.

who thought I had a take-out

West started with the ace of

too clever for their own good! Look at how we managed to go wrong on today's hand:

Both vulnerable, Dealer East



All Pass

I was North and it looked normal to start with a one spade overcall. Then East jumped to three diamonds (my partner did not realise it was such a weak bid – or he might have doubled for take-out). When three diamonds was passed back to me I knew I needed to bid again. I could have bid four clubs, but that would not have been a good idea if partner preferred spades. I did not think a double by me would show four hearts (because I could have bid three hearts instead). So, my plan was to double and if he bid three hearts, convert to three spades, hopefully

Aronian-Kasparov, St. Louis 2022. Even the best chess players can struggle with Chess960. Can you see how Kasparov was punished for a mistake on the previous turn?

abcdefgh

**1** 

Send your solution (first move only), to Sunday Times Spot the Move 1341, The Sunday Times, PO Box 29, Colchester, Essex CO2 8GZ, or email to puzzle.entries@sunday-times.co.uk. The first correct answer drawn after next Saturday wins a £20 Waterstones voucher. Open to 18+ UK & ROI residents only.

#### **BRIDGE** Sally Brock

Sometimes experts can be

		<b>▼</b> Q <b>♦</b> J	9876	
	<ul><li>♣ 874</li><li>♥ K842</li><li>♦ A108</li><li>♣ A4</li></ul>	1 14/	N E S	<pre>\$\Delta 932 \$\Phi 653 \$\Delta Q9732 \$\Delta J3\$</pre>
		<b>♦</b> K	1097	
3	West	North	East Pass	South Pass

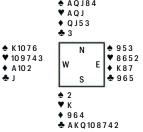
4♥

showing a club suit (or else I would have rebid three spades directly).

double and knew his cards fitted well. When he jumped to four hearts I assumed he had five and left him to stew!

> diamonds and switched to ace and another club. Partner won in the dummy and ran the queen of hearts, ducked, and West won the continuation. He tried another diamond but it was too late. Partner won his king, drew trumps and claimed the remainder. Four hearts bid

## Last week's problem



North West East South Pass Pass Pass 3NT Pass 4 🐣 Pass Pass All Pass

What should West lead? It always seems to me that when the opponents bash a slam and it sounds as if there are plenty of tricks around, it is best to lead an ace if you have one. That would have worked like a dream here, but also if partner had had a trump trick and no diamond king.

# WEATHER

Amsterdam	15C	sh	London	1/C	Ť
Athens	32	S	Los Angeles	26	S
Auckland	16	f	Madrid	28	th
Bangkok	29	th	Mexico City	20	th
Barcelona	25	f	Miami	31	th
Beijing	32	f	Moscow	18	sh
Belgrade	18	f	Nairobi	25	sh
Berlin	15	sh	New Delhi	37	S
Bogota	18	sh	New Orleans	32	th
Boston	29	sh	New York	31	f
Brussels	15	sh	Oslo	17	f
Budapest	15	f	Panama	28	th
Buenos Aires	20	f	Paris	19	f
Cairo	34	S	Prague	14	sh
Calgary	18	f	Rio de Janeiro	20	S
Cape Town	15	sh	Rome	25	S
Caracas	27	th	San Francisco	18	f
Casablanca	27	f	Santiago	12	sh
Chicago	33	th	Seoul	28	sh
Dubai	34	S	Seychelles	26	th
Dublin	18	f	Singapore	29	th
Geneva	20	S	Stockholm	16	f
Gibraltar	26	th	Sydney	22	f
Guatemala	24	th	Tel Aviv	29	S
Helsinki	15	sh	Tenerife	23	sh
Hong Kong	31	th	Tokyo	30	th
Istanbul	29	th	Toronto	27	sh
Jersey	17	f	Trinidad	29	th
Johannesburg	27	S	Tunis	32	f
La Paz	17	sh	Venice	22	S
Lagos	27	th	Vienna	15	f
Lima	19	f	Warsaw	15	sh
Lisbon	27	f	Washington DC	31	S

Key c=cloud, dr=drizzle, ds=dust storm, f=fair, fg=fog, g=gales, h=hail m=mist, r=rain, sh=showers, sl=sleet, sn=snow, s=sun, th=thunder, w=windy

## **EUROPE**



Portugal, Spain and the Balearics will have a largely dry day with sunny periods although there is the risk of a shower or thunderstorm during the afternoon

A dry and sunny day for Sardinia, Italy, Sicily and

Largely dry with sunny periods in the Balkans

Sun

Aberdeen

Birmingham 06:47

Manchester 06:47

Newcastle 06:44

Norwich

**Belfast** 

Bristol

Cardiff

Cork

rises

06:45

07:02

06:50

06:52

07:13

06:34

SUN, STREET LIGHTS & MOON

day in France. Cloudy with spells of rain in Germany and the Low Countries. Some snow over the Alps

• Eastern Europe, Ukraine and the Baltic States will be cloudy with showery rain Sunny intervals with showers or patchy rain

Moon

rises

22:16

22:58

22:59

23:10

23:12

23:31

22:53

22:37

22:45

Moon

17:53(Mon)

17:43(Mon)

17:09(Mon)

17:05(Mon)

17:07(Mon

17:32(Mon)

17:34(Mon)

17:48(Mon)

16:55(Mon)

17:18(Mon)

17:28(Mon)

16:57(Mon)

sets

in Scandinavia, sunniest in southern Norway and A dry and mostly sunny Sweden

Lights

06:47

07:04

06:48

06:51

06:54

07:15

06:49

06:46

06:35

## **REGIONAL FORECASTS**

**UK and Ireland forecast** 

Dry with spells of sunshine. Light to moderate northwesterly winds. Max 17C. Tonight, clear spells. Min 5C Midlands, E England

Sunny periods with the risk of a shower. Light to moderate

A dry and largely sunny day in southern England and south

Wales. Northern and eastern England and north Wales will

parts of northwestern England and north Wales during the

have sunny periods with the risk of a shower, especially across

afternoon. Sunny periods with the risk of a shower in Scotland

and Ireland. Light to moderate north or northwesterly winds

northwesterly winds. Max 17C. Tonight, largely clear. Min 7C Channel Is, SW and Cent S England, S Wales A dry and sunny day. Light to moderate northwesterly winds. Max 18C. Tonight, clear skies. Min 3C

N Wales, NW England, Isle of Man Sunny intervals with the risk of a shower. Gentle to fresh northwesterly winds. Max 16C. Tonight, a few showers. Min 7C Cent N and NE England

Sunny periods with the risk of a shower. Light northwesterly winds. Max 17C. Tonight, clear periods. Min 6C Scotland

Sunny periods with the risk of a shower. Light northwesterly winds. Max 15C. Tonight, well-scattered showers. Min 4C N Ireland, Republic of Ireland

Sunny spells with the risk of a shower in the west. Light and variable winds. Max 17C. Tonight, clear periods. Min 7C

## THE WEEK AHEAD



Monday Wet in the north and west. Sunny spells elsewhere.

Max 20C

Tuesday north. Max 20C

Dry in the south. Patchy rain in the

Wednesday Rain in the far north, mostly sunny elsewhere. Max 21C



**Friday** Largely cloudy with rain moving southwards. Max 200



## **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE JUMBO CROSSWORD 335**

All this was lost on partner

Across: 1 Lima, 3 Avogadro, 8 Cagiest, 13 Kerrang, 14 Rasterisation, 15 Death Be Not Proud, 16 Coypu, 17 Diacritic, 18 Red-shirts, 20 Piquet, 22 Oliver Cromwell, 26 Sherborne, 28 Solenoids, 30 Ennerdale Water, 31 Obtuse, 34 Flagstaff, 36 Lyme Regis, 39 Ratel, 40 Angelique Kerber, 42 Carmen Silvera, 43 Inutile, 44 Elysium, 45 Sesterce, 46 Ylem

Down: 1 Likud, 2 Marsala, 4 Vignette, 5 Girton College, 6 Disapprove, 7 Onefold, 8 Childe Harold,

9 Graeco-Roman, 10 Erinyes, 11 Tin Cup, 12 Sawhorse, 17 Dopester, 19 Klosters, 21 Queen, 23 Russell Square, 24 Elihu, 25 Friar's balsam, 27 Bersaglieri, 29 Lawfulness, 32 Bordeaux, 33 Amnesiac, 34 Fitzroy, 35 Angelus, 37 Gabriel, 38 Oracle, 41 Rheum **MEPHISTO 3237** 

Across: 1 Slope, 5 Puncher, 10 Eating-house, 12 Stayless, 13 Stop, 14 At sea, 16 Immortal, 18 Organa, 19 Enarms, 21 Spurge, 23 Stoury, 24 Grissini, 26 Aesir, 28 Dolt, 29 Whitefly, 30 A slate loose, 31 Rhymers, 32 Enure Down: 1 Sissoos, 2 Letterpress, 3 P-type, 4 Eildings, 5 Pneuma, 6 Ugsome, 7 Cost, 8 Humstrum, 9 Regal, 11 Steam-roller, 15 Aguishly, 17 On tiptoe, 20 Systyle, 22 Either 23 Snails, 24 Gazar, 25 Odeon, 27 Imam

Across: 1 Broadway, 5 Tidy, 8 Flying, 9 Reed pipe, 10 Thug, 11 Newsagents, 12 Speechwriter, 16 Sumo wrestler, 18 Commandant, 20 Gory, 21 Grandeur, 22 Letter, 23 Very, 24 Claymore Down: 1 Bellhops, 2 Owing, 3 Dog in the manger, 4 Arrow, 5 Top-secret, 6 Deputy, 7 Departmentally, 13 Easy money, 14 Raw, 15 Derrière, 17 Coarse, 19 April, 20 Get-go

**SPOT THE MOVE 1340 1...Qb5+!** draws by stalemate once the queen is captured. Note that 1 ... Qa5+ fails to 2 Qxa5 when there is no stalemate (2 ... Kb8) **TEASER 3129** 

Til Israel in Egypt, 12 Vapour, 13 Strong, 16 Animadversion, 19 Unifier, 20 Aging, 21 Tommyrot, 22 Kept Down: 1 Kanji, 2 Cover-up, 4 Hubris, 5 Red-letter day, 6 Usury, 7 Hashtag, 8 Irregularity, 12 Viaduct, 14 Orifice, 15 Overdo, 17 Idiom, 18 Night

**CELL BLOCKS** 

**POLYGON** 

CONCISE CROSSWORD 1799 Across: 1 Kick, 3 Thorough, 9 Never, 10 Bedbugs,

gismo, gist, gnosis, goss, inmost, insist, miosis, miso, **misogynist**, miss, missing, mission, missy, mist, misty, mitosis, moist, monist, moss, mossy noisy, nosy, sign, simony, sing, smog snig, snit, snog, snot, song, sonsy sting, stingy, stogy, stony, tons, toss

flows directly overhead from the SW to the NE at brightly and steadily some 20° high and due S while Jupiter is higher and more conspicuous in the SE. Mars, prominent between the horns of Taurus low in ENE, climbs to pass high in the S at 06:00 as brilliant Venus rises in the E. Alan Pickup

#### Dublin 07:04 19:34 07:05 23:10 06:54 19:27 06:56 22:39 Glasgow London 06:40 19:08 06:42 22:59

Sun sets/

lights on

19:19

19:33

19:16

19:18

19:21

19:42

19:18

19:03

Plymouth 06:56 19:24 06:58 23:24 17:04(Mon) We need a dark sky to see the Milky Way as it 23:00 BST. At the same time, Saturn shines



Thursday Heavy rain in the northwest, dry in the south and east.



Unsettled with showers or spells of rain. Max 20C

#### **LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS** SUDOKU WARM-UP **CODEWORD**



# SUE 9 8 4 2 6 3 7 5

# **4** 8 9 2 **6** 5 7 1 3 **3** 2 7 9 4 **1** 6 **5** 8 1 6 8 3 7 4 2 9 **KILLER SUDOKU**

# 6 2 7 3 4 5 1 9 8 23 45 24 49

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DO	KU	15	500	)				KEI	NKEI	V				
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7	2	1	5	4	9	3	6	0	3	120×	Z	24×	4	
4	1	3	9	2	5	8	7	5	2	6	4	3	1	
3	4	5	1	9	8	6	2	2:	6	3+	5	4	2	ì
6														

# **TETONOR**

4	8	2	9	7	3	5	6	23 x 1		Augustinian (Company)	7 x
5	9	6	8	1	2	7	4	26			13
8	1	7	2	3	4	6	9				
9	2	1	6	8	5	3	7				11 +
6	3	9	5	4	8	2	1	14	27	22	30
3	6	8	1	2	7	4	5	7 + 7	2 + 25	11 x 2	2 x
7	5	4	3	6	9	1	2	50	18	48	1!
1	4	5	7	9	6	8	3	25 x 2	3 + 15	2 x 24	12 +
	8	8 1 9 2 6 3 3 6	8 1 7 9 2 1 6 3 9 3 6 8	5 9 6 8 8 1 7 2 9 2 1 6 6 3 9 5 3 6 8 1	5 9 6 8 1 8 1 7 2 3 9 2 1 6 8 6 3 9 5 4 3 6 8 1 2	5 9 6 8 1 2 8 1 7 2 3 4 9 2 1 6 8 5 6 3 9 5 4 8 3 6 8 1 2 7	5     9     6     8     1     2     7       8     1     7     2     3     4     6       9     2     1     6     8     5     3       6     3     9     5     4     8     2       3     6     8     1     2     7     4	5     9     6     8     1     2     7     4       8     1     7     2     3     4     6     9       9     2     1     6     8     5     3     7       6     3     9     5     4     8     2     1       3     6     8     1     2     7     4     5       7     5     4     3     6     9     1     2	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	4     8     2     9     7     3     5     6       5     9     6     8     1     2     7     4       8     1     7     2     3     4     6     9       9     2     1     6     8     5     3     7       6     3     9     5     4     8     2     1       3     6     8     1     2     7     4     5       7     5     4     3     6     9     1     2	5     9     6     8     1     2     7     4       8     1     7     2     3     4     6     9       9     2     1     6     8     5     3     7       6     3     9     5     4     8     2     1       3     6     8     1     2     7     4     5       7     5     4     3     6     9     1     2

6	* <b>3</b>	³- 5	2	4×	4
5	2	120×	4	3 3	1
3	6	3÷ 1	5	4	2
4	5	3	1	2	6
2	1	4	3	6	5
1	4	2	6	5	3

2000		A CONTRACTOR SHOW	horacon and a committee
23 x 1	3 x 15	1 + 23	7 x 7
36	17	26	13
12 x 3	2 + 15	2 + 24	11 + 2
14	27	22	30
7 + 7	2 + 25	11 x 2	2 x 15
50	18	48	15
25 x 2	3 + 15	2 x 24	12 + 3

# 5] (18) (24)

**TODAY'S SOLUTIONS** 

Winners Crossword 5022 D Hoile, Sudbury, Suffolk, R Digby, London SE15, M Litton, Hay-on-Wye, Herefordshire, M Straw, Leeds Mephisto 3235 G Marshall, Rochdale, Greater Manchester, C Clark, Giltbrook, Nottinghamshire, G Jennison, Bournemouth, Dorset, M O'Driscoll, Knutsford, Cheshire, D Sharp, Horsham, West Sussex Teaser 3127 N Michael, Nailsea, Somerset, DA Thomas, South Wonston, Hampshire Chess 1338 C Worthington, Harrow, Greater London Sudoku 1498 T Evans, Ibstone, Buckinghamshire

# HRH QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1926-2022

JOIN US FOR FULL LIVE COVERAGE OF THE STATE FUNERAL TOMORROW FROM 6AM WITH PIERS MORGAN, VANESSA FELTZ & TOM NEWTON DUNN



# her final resting place

The procession will arrive at Wellington Arch. The coffin will be transferred into the state hearse, to be driven to Windsor. As it departs, the National Anthem will be played

1pm-3pm
The hearse will spend approximately two hours travelling about 25 miles to Windsor, via the A4 and the A30. It will avoid motorways, giving crowds the chance to line the route and pay their respects

3.10pm

After arriving in Windsor, the hearse will travel to St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, via the Long Walk. The Procession will reassemble and lead from Shaw Farm Gate.
The coffin will be carried up the West Steps

4pm
The committal service, conducted by the Dean of Windsor, the Right Reverend David Conner, will begin. The majority of guests will not have attended the Westminster Abbey service. The Procession will enter the Chapel and proceed down the Centre Aisle of the Centre Nave to the catafalque in the Quire

7.30pm
The King and members of the Royal family will attend a private burial service in the King George VI Memorial Chapel, which is part of St George's Chapel. It will be conducted by the Dean of Windsor. The Queen will be buried with her late husband, the Duke of Edinburgh

Queen's Piper plays

ceremony and walks

towards the Deanery

a lament at end of

in the cloister

High Altar

Royal Vault

The Queen's coffin will be lowered into the Royal Vault under the quire

#### **WELLINGTON ARCH**

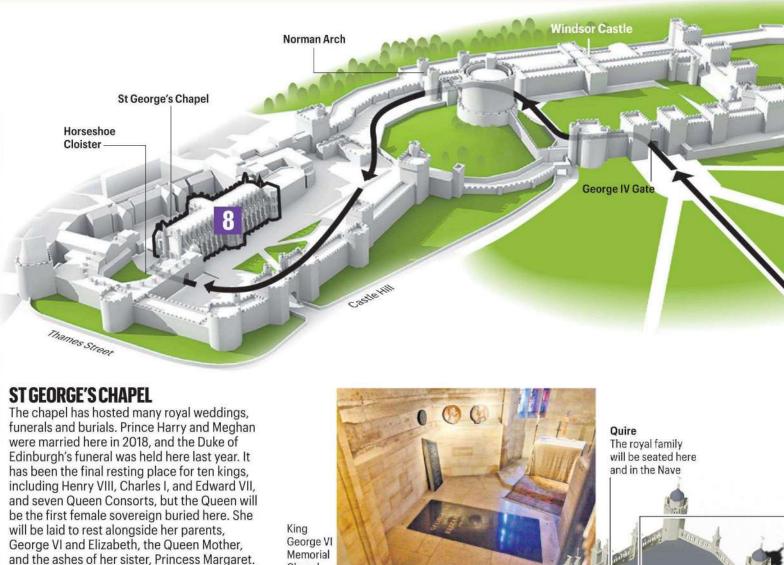
The Arch was built in 1826 as the original entrance to Buckingham Palace. It later became a victory arch, proclaiming Wellington's defeat of Napoleon in 1815. It features Peace descending on the Quadriga of War, the largest bronze sculpture in Europe







Windsor Castle from the Long Walk



Chapel

Prince Philip was laid in the main vault after his

death last year but will be moved to be with the Queen in the King George VI Memorial

chapel, on the north side

The chapel's choir, which was founded in 1348, consists of choristers, who are educated at St George's School, and professional lay clerks. It appointed its first female lay clerk in November last year

Electric lift
Lowers coffin into Royal Vault

Canterbury will say the blessing. God Save The King will be sung

THE COMMITTAL SERVICE

The Rector of Sandringham, the Minister of Crathie Kirk, the Chaplain of Windsor Great Park, and the Dean of Windsor will say prayers. The Choir of St George's Chapel will sing. The orb and sceptre will be removed from the coffin by the Crown Jeweller before the final hymn and placed on the altar. At the end of the final hymn, the King will place The Queen's Company Camp Colour of the Grenadier Guards on the coffin. The Lord Chamberlain will "break" his Wand of Office and place it on the coffin. As the coffin is lowered into the Royal Vault, the Dean will say a psalm and the commendation, and the Garter King of Arms will pronounce the styles and titles of the Queen. The Sovereign's Piper will play a Lament and the Archbishop of



Followed by members of the household of Queen Elizabeth II

Major general commanding the Household Division and Staff

Duke of Edinburgh's funeral, April 17, 2021



# OF MOURNING

# THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 8

12.32pm: Palace says doctors fear for the Queen's health. Her family travel to Balmoral. 6.31pm: the Queen's death is announced

#### **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 9**

King Charles III greets members of the public with the Queen Consort. Later the King gives his first address to the nation

#### **SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10**

Charles is proclaimed King. The Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex greet the public in Windsor

#### **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11**

Crowds line the streets to see the Queen's coffin driven from Balmoral to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh

#### **MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12**

A procession takes the coffin up the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral. After a service, the Queen's children hold a vigil

#### **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 13**

The Princess Royal accompanies the coffin as it is flown to London. The King travels to Belfast to meet Northern Irish leaders

#### WEDNESDAY **SEPTEMBER 14**

The coffin is taken in procession to Westminster Hall, with the King and other royals walking behind. At 5pm the lying in state begins

#### **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15**

The Prince and Princess of Wales inspect tributes at Sandringham. The Earl and Countess of Wessex visit Manchester Cathedral

#### FRIDAY **SEPTEMBER 16**

**SEPTEMBER 17** The King travels to Cardiff, visiting Llandaff Cathedral Charles and William meet mourners queueing for the lying in state. The Queen's eight grandchildren hold a vigil and the Senedd. The Queen's four children hold a vigil by their mother's coffin

**SATURDAY** 











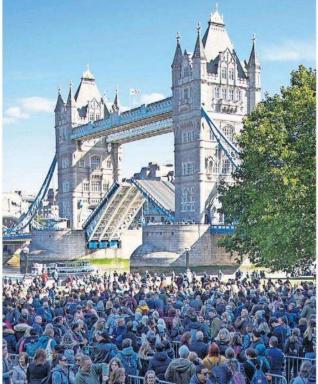












## Adam Frost on the healing power of gardening 20



## Value added

How a £40k renovation boosted the price of this home by £125k 8





The best of this week's property on sale

Compiled by Georgia Lambert

#### HOUSE OF THE WEEK

LONDON W13
There's more than meets the eye with this turreted family home. Nestled within St Stephen's conservation area and a five-minute drive from Ealing Broadway station, the Avenue is peppered with period appeal. An open-plan kitchen looks out over a timber-clad garden dwelling called Origami House — a Grand Designs-esque self-contained building.
savills.com









#### **OXFORDSHIRE**

Dating from the 1600s, this grade II listed townhouse is set in the Cotswold town of Chalbury, 18 miles northwest of Oxford. The former pub has four bedrooms and two bathrooms. **thecountryhousedepartment.com** 



#### **ESSEX**

The symmetrical, red-brick Old Vicarage two miles from Chelmsford features eight high-ceilinged bedrooms — three en suite — four grand reception rooms, and a cottagecore kitchen with an Aga. **savills.com** 



#### **DEVON**

This striking larch-clad conversion has 14 acres of pasture. It is drenched in natural light, thanks to multistorey panels, double-height ceilings and bifold doors. It's in Cheriton Bishop, 11 miles from Exeter. **struttandparker.com** 



#### **GWYNEDD**

The white stone façade of this charming grade II listed bolt hole in the harbourside village of Abersoch dates to the 15th century. The property has four bedrooms and a kitchen with quarry tile flooring. **beresfordadams.co.uk** 



#### **WARWICKSHIRE**

This home in the centre of Warwick is as smart on the inside as on the outside. There are five bedrooms, one en suite with a freestanding bath, and two more bathrooms, all stylishly finished. **fineandcountry.co.uk** 



#### **NORTHUMBERLAND**

Grade I listed Nunnykirk Hall, near Morpeth, is mentioned in Pevsner. The former school has plenty of potential, with a grand hall, stunning cornicing, a 19th-century organ and 7.56 acres. **galbraithgroup.com** 



#### DEVON

The Moorings is an architect-designed family home completed in 2020 with outstanding views over the River Tamar. It has five bedrooms and an acre of south-facing gardens. Plymouth is 14 miles away. **marchandpetit.co.uk** 



#### **WEST YORKSHIR**

Approached by wrought-iron gates are the imposing 18th-century Ashday Hall and its formal gardens. A tennis court, orchard and helicopter hangar all come with this six-bedroom retreat near Halifax. **fineandcountry.co.uk** 

#### **PROPERTY LADDER** — WHAT'S HOT AND NOT

Big bucks New York estate agents are rubbing their hands in glee as the Big Apple tops the list of cities with the most resident millionaires: 345,600. London (272,400), a perennial winner in previous years, slipped to fourth spot, behind Tokyo and San Francisco, according to the Henley Global Citizens Report.

Hot flushes Design aimed at the overheating, sleep-deprived woman is everywhere this season. You could say it's a hot trend. Products that aid a good night's rest include Wool Room's woollen bedding (left) and breathable pillows and mattresses "with a patented microclimate system". According to a Silentnight survey, menopausal women lose five weeks' sleep a year. No wonder we are a tad tetchy.

Flower power Hold the shop-bought bouquet: flower lovers are learning to master DIY decor. Frog Flowers (based in Manchester's Northern Quarter and Selfridges Trafford Centre) reports sold-out workshops on everything from creating the ultimate vase display to festive wreath-making.

de the quet:

Roc

reating
display to

king

Eco loo roll We all want to do our bit when it comes to eco-living — investing in plastic-free lavatory roll is a good way to go. However, one online reviewer likened unbleached bamboo roll to actual paper, saying: "My two-year-old screams with terror when I try to wipe their bum with it ... I guess the upside is that my five-year-old uses it to draw on?"

Rural pause The country house market has taken a breath this summer, with viewings down by 16 per cent against the five-year average in August, according to the latest rural report from Knight Frank. It's still not easy to bag a pretty cottage or country pile, though — demand remains unchanged and lack of supply remains an issue, according to the estate agency.

**Ironing water** Scented ironing water, which eases the path of the iron over crumpled shirt fronts, is not only a real thing, it's in short supply. Off-brand de-ionised water or — shudders — tap water simply will not do. We predict a riot.



## FOREIGN BUYERS SWOOP IN FOR CAPITAL GAINS

ast week the pound slumped to its lowest level against the dollar since 1985, sounding echoes of the Thatcher era. But while the new prime minister, Liz Truss, is left to worry about the comparison, foreign buyers – especially Americans – are rejoicing.

With Truss's "fiscal event" (the government's plan to cut taxes and tackle the cost of living crisis) and the Bank of England's interest rate meeting both happening next week, all eyes are on the UK economy. While an energy price freeze could soften rising inflation, the Bank is

still expected to hike interest rates – and the pound could slide further.

Analysts at both Capital Economics and HSBC have forecast house price falls of between 12 and 14 per cent over the next couple of years in central London but the falling pound could help hold prices steady.

"Effectively, a buyer purchasing a £1 million house in the UK in dollars today would now save about 16 per cent, or £164,000, compared with last year," says Aneisha Beveridge, head of research at Hamptons estate agency. "This is solely down to currency changes."

It is one of the factors that has enticed international investors back in pre-Covid numbers in the first half of this vear. They accounted for 48 per cent of all homes sold in prime central London, a 13 per cent increase on 2021. Some  $5\,per\,cent\,of\,those\,purchases$ were to Americans; this figure is likely to increase in the second half of the year. With the euro not faring as well as the dollar, there is likely to be less competition from European buyers, who traditionally account for the lion's share of foreign purchases in the capital.

"While the pound has depreciated against the dollar

#### EMANUELE MIDOLO

@ManuMidolo



A buyer purchasing a £1 million house in the UK in dollars would save about £164,000 on last year a fair amount over the last year, it has remained more robust against the euro," Beveridge says. "This means that American buyers or other buyers whose currency is pegged to the dollar stand to gain the most."

Mark Hutton, partner of the property advisory Hutton
Bubear, says the pound's slump has led buyers who were circling the market to pull the trigger. "They see the opportunity because the perceived discount, or saving, if you like, can be millions,"

Saudi A are am "The blessin saving In the conversation at the times.co.uk"

he explains.
Stuart Bennett,
head of sales at
Beauchamp Estates Mayfair,
says that he has seen "a series
of dollar-based deals", most
recently in Eaton Square and
Cadogan Gardens, Chelsea.
"[The slump] pays for a
buyer's stamp duty as well as
any renovation or moving-in
costs," he says. "It also enables
a dollar-based buyer to have
a home in a much better area
than previously."

And it's not just Americans. Buyers from the Middle East, whose wealth often comes from oil, the price of which is pegged to the dollar, are also heading back to London to snap up properties. Middle Eastern buyers accounted for 7 per cent of all purchases in prime central London this year. According to Waleed Mohammed, managing director of the estate agency Merchants Row, buyers from Saudi Arabia, UAE and Kuwait are among the most active.

"The pound slump is a blessing," he says. "They're saving huge amounts of

money. They're trying to pay off mortgages if they can, renovate and look for larger properties."

Mohammed recently bought a house in Lancaster Gate, Bayswater, from a Russian lady on behalf of

an Arab client for £3 million-£4 million. "They really want to buy a piece of history," he says.

Some analysts predict that the pound could fall further, bolstering foreign sales.

"And these purchases are helping the government, which gets millions in stamp duty," Mohammed adds.

Memories of Thatcher and the UK recession in the early 1980s will still echo, but Liz Truss might have one less thing to worry about.



# When we promise the world, we mean it.

Last year, our buyers originated from 37 different countries. So, whether it's Chelsea, China or the Czech Republic, we have the international reach to find you the perfect buyer.

johndwood.co.uk









### **MAULDEN**

BEDFORDSHIRE

Guide price: £3,750,000





Bedford: 01234 220000







N/A EPC

- A Grade II listed 8,237 sq. ft. detached house
- Approx. 14.26 acres of landscaped gardens and grounds
- 1,336 sq. ft. of outbuildings
- Panoramic views over Greensand Ridge



### LILLEY

HERTFORDSHIRE

Offers in excess of: £3,000,000





Bedford: 01234 220000







A detached house on a plot approx. 4.23 acres

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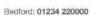






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- Self-contained flat
- 16 acres of gardens and paddocks





#### PADBURY

Guide price: £1,500,000









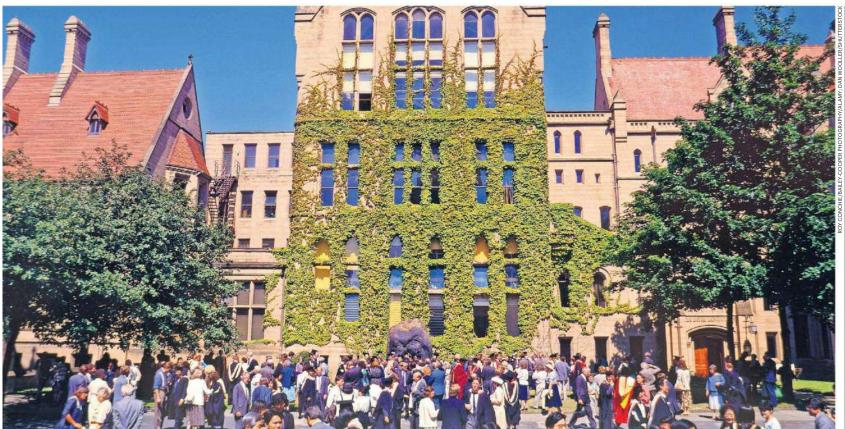
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## HALLSSHORTFALL

Thousands of undergraduates have no option but to live at home or in digs miles away from their campus. By Sian Griffiths and Sam Chambers

lly Lynch dreamt of going to Manchester University. The 18-year-old with four A\* grades at A-level could have had her pick of universities but fell in love with the city campus.

In February, as soon as she got an offer of a place on a degree course there, she applied for halls of residence in the city centre. For months she heard nothing but was told not to worry because Manchester guaranteed accommodation to all firstyear students.

Last week she was emailed by the university with the offer of a place in purpose-built student accommodation (run by a private company) in Liverpool, 35 miles away. She and 350 other students were also offered £100 a week to cover commuting costs into Manchester to attend lectures.

Lynch\*\* has now deferred her degree until next year, when she hopes she will get a place in halls. She is one of thousands of students hit by an accommodation crisis this autumn. This crisis is threatening the traditional student experience of independent living after leaving school.

Clare Marchant, chief executive of Ucas (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service), has warned that parents should brace themselves for three more years of cooking, cleaning and laundry as thousands of teenagers are forced to stay at home to study for a degree because they can't find or afford a student room.

Students at Manchester University whose parents already live within commuting distance of the campus are being offered £2,500 to give up their rooms and stay with their parents to try to free up spaces for those who live further away.

"It is horrendous," says Elly's mother, Elizabeth. "Elly is now trying to find a job at the last minute – when she had set her heart on going to university this month. I have been told that many of the students who do not have places are girls – how safe is it for them to travel by train between Liverpool and Manchester late at night

Everything was sold out. I thought, my God, how has it got this bad?

the first time they are away from home?"

After collecting her A-level results – three A\* grades and an A – Roxy Toyne, 19, earned a place at Manchester University to read English and drama. But while her friends at other universities were also assured of accommodation on results day in August, Toyne was left waiting to find out where she would live. She was, like Elly, offered a room in Liverpool, Preston or Huddersfield, and £100 to commute weekly into lectures.

Her outraged father, the thriller writer Simon Toyne, took to Twitter to vent the family's frustration. He was deluged with messages from families in similar positions – within days the university contacted Roxy to offer her a room in a shared block of flats in Manchester.

in Manchester.

"It was stressful. At one point Roxy rang the accommodation hotline and was on hold for an hour listening to Coldplay," Toyne says. "I am a writer, so I took it upon myself to launch a bit of a campaign on social media. People are still getting in touch with me with their children's accommodation problems."

Last week Glasgow University wrote to students telling them they would not be guaranteed accommodation ahead of the new term. And at the University of the West of



Top: the **University of Manchester Above: the University of** Bath. Right: the actress Jackie **Clune with her** daughter Saoirse, a drama student. **Below right: the** writer Simon Toyne with his daughter Roxy, who is reading **English and** drama at Manchester





England (UWE) in Bristol, students have been offered places in halls in Newport, Wales, and informed that the university will pay travel costs.

The actress Jackie Clune, whose daughter Saoirse, 18, got a place to study drama at Manchester Metropolitan University, says she was told there was no accommodation available. "I spent a week on the phone, put her name down on every waiting list. The only flat I could find wanted £400 a week. Everything was sold out. I thought, my God, how has it got this bad? I thought she would not get that student experience of living with others away from home."

Instead of building their

Instead of building their own halls of residence for the extra students they are enrolling, universities are contracting private companies to build blocks of student accommodation and leasing them out on rents as high as £400 a week.

In Bath, where students from Bristol University were housed last summer because of a shortfall of housing in Bristol, a campaign has been launched to stop private developers building student accommodation blocks. Wera Hobhouse, the Liberal Democrat MP for Bath, says student accommodation should be built on the campuses of the two universities in Bath, ending speculative developments that are driven by profit.

The proportion of purposebuilt student accommodation in private ownership is 53.3 per cent, up from 38.3 per cent in 2014, according to the property agents Cushman & Wakefield. American private equity firms are piling into the industry in the expectation that student numbers will outpace the supply of new accommodation, creating the opportunity to hike rents.

For a new en suite apartment provided by a private sector operator, students pay an average of £8,520 a year, roughly £1,400 more expensive than the equivalent room in university-provided accommodation, according to Cushman & Wakefield. Students typically pay an all-in fee, covering their rent and utility bills, but rising rents now eat up the majority of even the largest student loans. In London, students pay an average of £437 a week for a studio flat.

"There is this snowball effect of people who have taken gap years or deferred, plus international students coming back [after the pandemic] and a general increase in the number of people going to university," says James Hanmer, head of private sector student accommodation at Savills. "This is one of those years where supply [of rooms] has not kept up with demand." \*\*Some names have been changed



# THE MAGIC OF

How one resourceful interior designer added £125,000 to the value of her London flat on a budget of less than £40,000

KATRINA Burroughs



thina Bluff is not a magician, although to many it might seem that way. The founder of the online design service Topology Interiors bought a one-bedroom ground-floor flat in Brixton in March 2021 and spent less than £40,000 on the renovation. She transformed a damp and dark space into a welcoming, light-filled apartment and added more than £125,000 to

the property's value. Bluff (pictured), lives with her partner, the photographer Theo McInnes and Sasha, a little rescue mongrel from Battersea Dogs Home. When the couple, both 30, decided to buy their first property they scoured the portal Rightmove, but the only thing they found within their budget of £415,000 was the Brixton flat. There was, however, a snag. "We tried to arrange a

viewing, but the estate agents said that the tenants had Covid and we couldn't see it. We called them a month later and they said the same." Unconvinced, Bluff decided to investigate further. "I drove past it, and my car broke down. So I was standing outside the flat for hours waiting for the RAC, and I had time to see if anyone was coming and going. I could see inside and there was no furniture, no curtains... it was completely uninhabited."

She told the agents what she had discovered and they realised that the tenants had moved out. Bluff viewed the property in January last year and loved its layout, built in a triangle with a central garden for residents, and the three-metre high ceilings.

The amount of work needed, from damp-proofing to the electrics, would have been daunting to many amateur home improvers

but Bluff, an interior designer, saw only potential. The asking price was £420,000 and the couple bought it for £408,000 in March 2021.

Bluff launched her own design studio in 2016 after a stint working on product lines for the renowned interior designer Kelly Hoppen and then Camerich.

Bluff said that clients would often ask her for styling advice and email photos of their rooms. She would send them back tips. "I thought, you know what, I could really make this into something.'

The Brixton flat had been rented out for more than a decade and work was long overdue. "It was not in good nick at all," Bluff says. First she tackled the damp.

"That cost about £10,000 and involved ripping up all the original floorboards in the bedroom and stripping back halfway up the walls to rerender." The builders arrived

on May 31 last year and only finished in January. 'It should have taken about four weeks," she says. "As an interior designer I work with these builders all the time, and I was on the back burner. They asked if I wanted my clients' houses done first or my own project? I had to say my clients.'

The project may have dragged on, but the results are outstanding. The kitchen was expanded by knocking into the chimney breast and adding an extra run of cabinets. With the wall between the kitchen and living room taken down, both interiors were transformed into bright, inviting spaces The old lean-to, a makeshift storage space leading from the kitchen to the garden, was turned into Bluff's study. "I really enjoy that room. It has a door to the kitchen that I can shut and in the summer I can have the door on to the garden open and hear the birds.

"It has a 2.4 metre-long glass roof and three windows. When I had an estate agent from Dexters over to revalue the property she said it was building this space that had added most value. She said



#### **LIVING ROOM** Bluff bought a

reclaimed chimneypiece for just £150 from a , specialist supplier in Dulwich and installed a bioethanol fire. 'You pour plantbased fuel in it and light it like a candle." She splashed out on a couple of pieces too: the Agatha green velvet sofa from Arlo & Jacob cost over £3,000, and the cream bouclé chair is the Lovett from Soho Home, £795. Much of the rest of the decor, including the rug and the sidetable, was sourced from secondhand shops



# (VALUE ADDED TRANSFORMATION)



#### **► STUDY**

A former lean-to used for storage by the last tenant, this little room was transformed into a study without needing planning permission - it is the space that added most value. Cupboards, cabinet and desk were custommade by Bluff's builders. The desk is 45cm deep, large enough for two screens and a keyboard, and sufficiently lowprofile that it doesn't impede movement through the space. Panelling is from the walnut range at Acupanel



#### **■ BEDROOM**

The aim here was to turn a rather damp and depressing interior into a cosy retreat. Bluff introduced panelling to bring character, fitted at half-height only to create a sense of expansiveness. Bow Tie wall lights by Pooky were installed in the woodwork above the bed. Speaking of which, the Dazzler bed, which cost over £1.000 from Loaf, was the big-ticket buy, while she saved on bed linen from Ikea and artwork from Matalan. Bluff says the room now has "a nice feeling of luxury without the price tag"





#### ▲ BATHROOM

To achieve an asking price of £525,000, the estate agent advised Bluff to refresh the bathroom. So, after the first wave of building work, Bluff spent about £3,500 ripping out the old bath and vanity unit and putting in a smart black showerhead and taps. It was retiled with skinny green rectangular tiles from Topps, arranged vertically. The Crittall-style shower screen cost under £100 from ManoMano.

#### **⋖ KITCHEN**

Bluff estimates she spent less than £10,000 on her kitchen, which originally occupied just one wall. She lined the other side of the room with more units and knocked into the chimneybreast to add a sink. The carcasses are by Howdens, with the fronts made by the contractor to her design and then painted in Beige 04 by Lick. Among Bluff's favourite features is the pot-filler tap over the hob.

people looking for a two-bedroom flat would consider this even though it's a one-bed, because we had a dedicated area for a home office. What people value a second bedroom for is as a working from home space."

Bluff's tips for adding value focus on undertaking the jobs that buyers would rather not do themselves. "Good flooring is something people are instantly drawn to. It's something buyers definitely look at, but it's always such a faff to install new." She says that good lighting is also important. "We added LED lights, wall lights, spotlights, and LED lights under the units in the shelves, so there's a really nice ambient light at all hours of the day."

Last month the flat was valued at £515,000-£525,000. Bluff asked the estate agent how she could achieve the higher figure and was told to refresh the bathroom and replace the old yellow tiles on the path to the front door with a Victorian-style checkerboard of black and white. So she has spent £3,500 on the bathroom and is budgeting £920 to replace the tiles next month.

The couple plan to put the flat on the market towards the end of the year, hoping to move up the ladder to a two or three-bedroom property in the same area.

Bluff admits that she was surprised by the value generated by her renovation. "I was purely homemaking at the time. I always wanted to make a profit but I never had that as my driving force behind the decisions I made. When the agent told me the profit was £125,000 in less than a year, I was honestly shocked. It definitely got me excited and wanting to do more renovations." topologyinteriors.com

oes your fridge always look like this?" I say, staring at the neat rows of vibrant produce in clear acrylic boxes. This is the picture-perfect fridge that Lauren Allen, 33, shares with her husband, Greg, and their two young children. "To be fair, yes, otherwise I get told off," Greg, 42, says with a laugh. Their son, Jasper, six, nods as if in agreement, rapidly munching through the strawberries in one of the containers.

The Allens' fridge may be worthy of Instagram, but is not showcased on the social media platform, even though Lauren founded Not a Boring Box, a one-stop shop for home organising products, during the pandemic.

Their modest four-bedroom home in Orpington, Kent, is practical and lived in, and full of ideas for staying organised. 'You're constantly having to top it up," Lauren admits minutes after I arrive. "At the moment the bedrooms and bathrooms aren't so good, but the kitchen and playroom are."

Like many of us Lauren, who was an accountant before starting her business, spent the lockdowns organising cupboards and researching the best containers. She could not find what she was looking for, so launched her online shop from her kitchen table in December 2020 and, within three months, quit her job to run it full time.

Now her kitchen cabinets are filled with samples of products she has designed and is testing out, such as a stainless-steel lunchbox that is leak-proof yet openable by little fingers. What is her favourite off-the-shelf find? Lauren is "obsessed" with reusable silicone ziplock bags by Stasher (£9.99 to £29.99).

Unimpressed by the storage solutions on offer, Lauren Allen designed her own. By Martina Lees in a second

"I literally use them for everything. I use them to put food in the freezer. I use them for my kids' snacks. When we go swimming, I use them to put the kids' wet swimsuits in. I use them for my make-up in my handbag. I use them to take my toiletries through security when I go abroad." Here are her top tips.

#### **ENTRANCE HALL**

"Embrace the fact that you're dumping stuff at your front door," Lauren says. The Allens added a porch extension to their Arts and Crafts home, making space for all the

clobber needed in the entrance hall. Each family member is allowed one coat switched seasonally - hanging from a wall hook, and one or two pairs of shoes in a storage bench. The children dump their bags in a large Smartstore storage box with a bamboo lid, which doubles as a seat (£85). Hats are dropped into a big fabric basket, and a smaller basket contains sunscreen and sunglasses ready to grab and go. An Ewa woven rope basket (£15) hangs from the banister, ready for anything that should be taken upstairs.

"I'm not a fan of mess," says Lauren, who cleans her fridge every Sunday when the Ocado delivery arrives. Then she stores the food in clear containers, categorised by food group. She uses modular and stackable bins by Smartstore (£2.50 to £13). Fruit goes on upper shelves; then dairy, with a container each for yoghurt, cheese and so forth; and meat at the bottom, where it is coldest and to limit cross-contamination. 'When I open the fridge door, I know what I've got." Condiments and drinks go

**Lauren Allen has** repurposed the utility room into a pantry; Jasper and Leni's toys go into pullout baskets; and food is organised by type in containers in the fridge



fridge-freezer

The Allens did not have a

adding shelves above the

dryer. There she lined up

the air-tight glass jars with

designed, grouped by food

type (grains, flours, sugars, spices) and labelled. "It's

always this organised.

pantry or larder, so Lauren adapted the utility room by

washing machine and tumble

acacia lids (£8 to £18) that she

in the utility

room.

**PANTRY** 

has allergies, I cook from scratch," Lauren says. "It keeps everything fresh, it looks neat and tidy, and you can see when you're running empty. I waste a lot less because I don't lose things down the back

of the cupboard." Containers handled by the children - such as for cereal are made of clear plastic so they won't break, while the most tempting treats are hidden in Scandi-style mesh baskets (£12). Her "back stock" (surplus ingredients that cannot fit into the jars) are kept out of sight in a kitchen corner cupboard, arranged by food type in plastic baskets.

For £50 Lauren offers a virtual pantry-organising service: if you send pictures and measurements of your kitchen cupboards, she will suggest a layout plan and product list (with a 20 per cent discount), followed by a 30-minute call to perfect your pantry.

#### **CLEANING CUPBOARD**

Under the kitchen sink Lauren keeps reusable glass spray bottles in another modular set of wipe-down SmartStore containers. A slim Yamazaki trolley (£110) with frequently used cleaning

products stays in the cupboard under the stairs, where the broom, mop and ironing board are neatly mounted on the walls with hooks and clips.

#### **CHILDREN'S STORAGE**

The playroom, which the Allens converted from a double garage, "does actually get really messy", Lauren says. "Nothing is complicated, so they can put away their own toys." Leni, three, and Jasper each have two big baskets in which to toss their soft toys and dolls. Lego is contained in a Play & Go mat, which folds open for building sessions before being strung tight into a storage bag (£34.99). Smaller toys, such as cars, characters and puzzles, are organised by type into pullout baskets in two sideboards. (When our photographer asks the children to climb on top of the sideboards for the family shoot, Jasper bellows: "We're not allowed to do this!")

For craft supplies Lauren used stackable and foldable Aykasa crates (£5 to £25), with Smartstore inserts serving as pen pots for crayons and felt tips. Two empty crates - regularly cleared – are ready to store the children's creations. Toys are cleared out after each birthday to donate or sell, Lauren adds. "It's one in, one out."

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Lifts for dachshunds and chihuahua dormitories: if you think the Queen spoilt her corgis, you haven't met these dog owners, says Katrina Burroughs

eports of the Queen's corgi room delighted doting dog owners last week. Personally frugal, Her Majesty tended to spoil her four-legged family. Reading about the royal pack's Buckingham Palace bedsit, with elevated wicker baskets to keep away draughts, and dogs' dinners of chef-prepared rabbit and beef, served in silver bowls, was a flicker of joy during a dark week of news. It's a relatable side of royalty, since many fellow owners have long been decorating for canine comfort, and some designers have devised palatial creations for their clients' pets.

At the south Devon home of the denim designer Donna Ida Thornton and her husband, Robert Walton, the family chihuahuas are majestically indulged. The couple's Jacobean manor house, Langdon Court, features a chihuahua dormitory for Emilio, Julio, Fernando, Eduardo and Gonzalo, decorated by the interior designer Geraldine Apponyi. Flooring is checkerboard vinyl from Harvey Maria, walls are in Edward Bulmer Pearl, and tongue and groove panelling is painted with Farrow & Ball's Oval Room Blue. "Five chihuahuas is my maximum. I've worked that out," says Thornton.

The chihuahua suite, which adjoins the couple's bedroom, includes a "tea and toast room" with a kitchenette and bistro table, plus a sleeping and feeding area with a mini stable for each dog. "I said to Gerry [Apponyi], we need somewhere to separate them when we feed them, because they are always trying to eat each other's food. So Gerry designed the chihuahua stables," Thornton explains.
"They don't sleep there. At night they have their separate dog beds and blankets, but most tend to snuggle together. The big curtain over the door and blinds are there for a purpose, because the dogs need blackout to sleep well."

In the morning you could set your watch by their household routine. Classic FM comes on the Roberts radio and wakes up the pack. "Roy, our caretaker, comes in and feeds them at seven," Thornton says. "I come in just afterwards - it's like having a nanny. After they are bathed and

**Right: dog luxury** at Langdon Court in Devon, where **Donna Ida Thornton and her** husband, Robert Walton, have created a chihuahua dormitory, decorated by **Geraldine** Apponyi. Flooring is checkerboard vinyl from Harvey Maria, walls are in Edward Bulmer Pearl, and tongue and groove panelling is painted with Farrow & Ball **Oval Room Blue** 

wasnot averse to corgis on the couch







ready for Mama, I pop in when it's all beautiful and calm, and I can have coffee and breakfast there. Usually Fernando likes to sit on the table. He would never touch food, but has to be on there."

Should you wish to create the lap of luxury for your city pack, the man you need to call is Mike Fisher, the creative director and founder of Studio Indigo. "We do the usual things of dog showers, grooming parlours, dog wash hand basins, dog beds, but probably the most unusual is the dog lift," he says. He installed a lift in a Kensington home, a tall property with four floors above ground and two below, for the family's two American cockers and dachshund.

"The house is an upside-down one, with the family rooms and kitchen on the top floor – the lift carries the dogs from the garden level to the family rooms, and allows the dogs to go from the top floor for a pee in the garden." How does it work? The dogs simply walk to the lift door, where there are sensors at nose level, and summon a ride. "They aren't stupid dogs," says Fisher. "I showed them how to use it and they very quickly cottoned on."

While the dachshund has a broken back and needs the lift to make the house accessible, Fisher says: "The spaniels could quite easily walk, but they prefer to ride in the lift. They sometimes just go and sit in it because they love going up and down. It's hilarious to see."

Based in Dorset, and a specialist in country houses, Henriette von Stockhausen, the founder of VSP Interiors, says: "I don't think we've ever had a client that didn't have dogs." The focus of her dog-friendly design features are her clients' kitchens and

The focus of her dog-friendly design features are her clients' kitchens and ancillary rooms. "We have made an elevated area for a dog bed to go by an inglenook fireplace. It was an older dog that really needed to be somewhere warm. We often put in Agas or Everhot ranges for the dogs to lie in front of. Generally people choose an Aga because the dogs love it, not because it's so great to cook on, to be honest."

1 Dog-washing station for a cockapoo, from Humphrey Munson, with a heated towel rail. For a larger dog a walk-in shower room is better, says Louise Eggleston, the company's creative director. humphrey munson.co.uk

2 The lift designed for two spaniels and a dachshund for a six-storey Kensington home, by Mike Fisher of Studio Indigo. The dogs walk to the lift door, where there are sensors at nose level, and summon a ride. studioindigo. co.uk

**3** Louis XVI-style dog bed by Joanna Wood, £438. **joannawood.com** 

4 Double dog niches either side of a sink in a Henley kitchen, by Neptune.

**5** Raised metal bed, in the style of a Victorian metal bedstead, from the Cornish Bed Co. From £1,200. **cornishbeds.** 

6 Dog washroom by Studio Indigo, with hand-held shower and glass door, so the dog groomer doesn't get wet. Photo by Alex Winship

7 Playroom/sitting room designed by Simone Suss for her children and her mini labradoodle, Harvey

8 Hugo the pug belongs to Louise Eggleston. His bespoke bed is a prototype of one of Humphrey Munson's most popular doggy designs







Her most elaborate project was a bootroom with a shower for two black labradors, a breed notorious for shedding ("that was why the floor was black"). "We lined the skirting in zinc so that you could hose the whole room out. The floor was heated, so it was really lovely for the dogs to lie on and would dry off quickly."

Many a pampered pet will have its own shower in a country house project, but the cabinetmaker Humphrey Munson, at

the cutting edge of pooch-friendly design, is going a step further and creating canine pantries and











laundry areas as well. "We were dog-mad before the pandemic, but designing for dogs now is on another level," says Louisa Eggleston, the company's creative director. "They have their own food storage for dry food, an undercounter fridge or freezer depending on the flavour-of-the-month food, and their own laundry appliances. If you've ever had to wash a dog blanket or bed you'll know the next load of washing is riddled with dog hairs and bits of debris."

For most pet owners – those without a dedicated doggy sitting room – the eternal question remains: should dogs be allowed on the sofa? Photographic evidence reveals that Elizabeth II was not averse to corgis on the couch, and that is good enough for many of us. Besides, there is always the option of keeping the posh furniture for humans only. Simone Suss, founder of the studio Suss, has designed a colourful, cosy interior in her north London home as a shared playroom/sitting room for her kids and her mini labradoodle, Harvey, with easily cleaned indoor/outdoor upholstery. The

sofas in the grown-ups' lounge are strictly off-limits.

While settees are fairly easily protected, curtains can suffer canine depredations. Enter the dog-friendly drape, invented by Emma Deterding, the founder and creative director of Kelling Designs, based in Norfolk and Chelsea. "More and more companies are bringing out designs that are stain-resistant, waterproof and ideal for use with pets," she says. "Perennials, Christopher Farr and Thibaut do some of the best. For curtains in a space we know is a high dog-traffic area we will often use a robust fabric that co-ordinates with the main fabric on the bottom 24-26in. This makes it much easier to clean if a muddy dog walks past."

Hugo the pug belongs to Louise Eggleston. His bespoke dog bed is the first prototype of one of Humphrey Munson's most popular doggy designs – raised beds, on little feet, in timbers that match the kitchen cabinetry. "We also added handles so it can be lifted in and out of the boot of the car easily," says Eggleston, the company's creative director.

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## Home



## NATURALLY HIGHONHIS OWNSUPPLY

## Meet the green farmer who built a net-zero home using industrial hemp. By *Martina Lees*

teve Barron has grown his own home. The film-maker directed the hit series Around the World in 80 Days and the original Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles film – but his proudest achievement stands on a farm in Cambridgeshire. Here, with panels made from hemp cultivated on the fields of Margent Farm, Barron built a house to change the world.

Now his net zero hemp house appears in two new books, the latest cult interiors bible Remodelista: The Low Impact Home and Houses That Can Save the World. The corrugated panels that Barron developed with Cambridge University scientists have been bought for display by the Victoria and Albert Museum. "I never expected such interest," says Barron, 66.

Curious to see how the panels are holding up, I head to Margent Farm, near Pidley, northwest of Huntingdon. Almost four years since the cladding was put on the house as a prototype, it sits perfectly intact with no leaks in sight. Only the colour has faded from the original black-brown to a sepia. As Barron puts it: "It has totally done its job."

His quest started six years ago. "I turned 60 and I had a granddaughter. When I had kids it was all about what we were going to do now, living day to day. For grandkids you think about the future more."

Barron's friend turned business partner Fawnda Denham suggested looking at industrial hemp, which captures at least twice as much carbon as trees when it grows. In the past ships' sails were made from hemp – the word "canvas" stems from the Latin "cannabis". Having been demonised over the past century because of its link to marijuana, hemp is now once again being used to make bioplastics, such as car-door inserts for BMW, Barron says.

In 2016 he paid £450,000 for a former cowshed. Off-grid with 53 acres of depleted soil, it had been sitting unwanted on the market. Today, the house generates its own energy from 6kW solar panels, a 1kW wind turbine, a biomass boiler and two batteries. The three fields are certified as organic, surrounded by an untouched margin for wildlife to thrive.

To become one of Britain's 20 or so hemp farms, Barron needed a licence, which can (but didn't) entail a police visit. A variety of the *Cannabis sativa* plant, industrial hemp contains less than 0.3 per cent of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) that makes you high. "You'd have to smoke the whole field and you'll just feel sick," says Barron, gesturing at this year's hemp crop.

From a viewing platform he built under an old oak, Barron had watched his first harvest yield 32 tonnes in 100 days. The fibre was "just enough" to make the panels used to



Industrial hemp contains less than 0.3 per cent of the THC that makes you high — you'd have to smoke the whole field

convert the cowshed into the three-bedroom Flat House, designed by Paloma Gormley of Practice Architecture. With a goal to bring hemp products back into widespread use, Barron and Denham pitched their idea to scientists of the Centre for Natural Material Innovation at Cambridge University, and together they set about inventing the cladding for the house.

His house is like a hemp plant, Barron explains while peeling away the tough outer fibres from one specimen to reveal its woody core. Using a centuries-old technique, the inner straw was mixed with lime and sand to create "hempcrete". This was cast into insulating prefabricated panels, which slotted into the timber-framed walls. The façade was then clad in the newly invented hemp sheets, made by soaking the outer fibres in farm biowaste resin and pressing it into a corrugated mould at 160C. The £280,000 build was completed in 2019.

The guts of the building are unashamedly on display, partly covered in hemp plaster or washed with chemical-free clay paint to stop the plant fibres from shedding. Some of the steel frame was left bare as an industrial-style pergola, soon to be covered with climbing hops. "I didn't want it to become too homely," Barron says. "I wanted it to stay an industrial and real farmhouse, so that its job and the job of the people inside was to look after the land." All three bedrooms and the bathroom lead off the two-storev kitchen, next to a glazed living room overlooking the fields. "Close to a thousand"

a gazzed ming rower looking the fields. "Close to a thousand"

architects around the world have been in touch about its panels, Barron says. From the west coast of Ireland, the non-profit social enterprise Common Knowledge bought the farm's hemp cladding to wrap micro homes built by its 500 trainees. "The panels did an amazing job of being sustainable, being grown locally enough, and being lightweight," says Harrison Gardner, its co-founder and the face of the RTE television series *Build Your Own*.

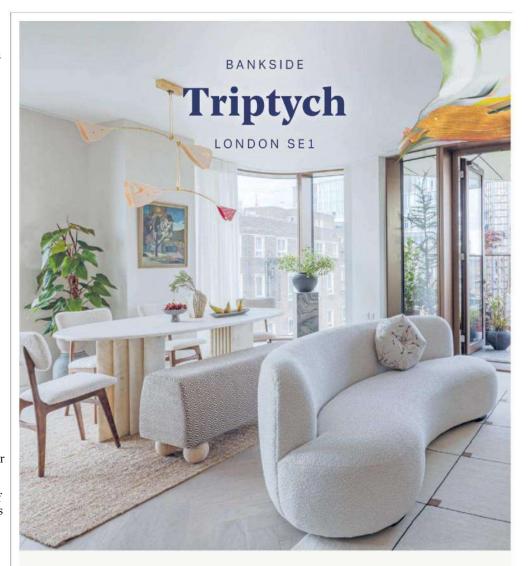
At a time when housing has

become unaffordable for many, the heart of the tiny home project was "to teach as many people as possible how to create these spaces that could provide everything you need, without feeling like a tiny or a cheap or pokey little space", Gardner adds. The 20 sq m hemp-clad house celebrates the raw beauty of its cork insulation and wood frame. The finished "tigin" (Gaelic for small house), with a king-size bed, kitchenette, shower and compost lavatory, is for sale for £53,000. The

profit will go into teaching more people to build their own homes, says Fionn Kidney, co-founder of Common Knowledge.

Ultimately the tigin projects are being used to create an open-source design that anyone can download and use to build their own micro home for under £50,000.

"The message is housing is for all," Gardner says. "It's not for only the engineers and the architects and the planning officers. We all get to have a say because it affects all of us."



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grew the hemp needed to create the panels of his net-zero farmhouse. Right: the 'tigin' project in Ireland by Common Knowledge uses Barron's pioneering

techniques to build affordable micro homes

Steve Barron's Margent Farm

**Cambridgeshire** 

in rural



On a west coast beach between Sandy Lane and Bridgetown in Prospect, Ocean Heights is a seven-bedroom villa with a private beach. The property is over four floors — each with its own  $\mathsf{balcony}-\mathsf{and}$ divided into two apartments. onecaribbean

estates.com



On the Aegean island of Hydra, you'll find this whitewashed villa. It is close to Mandraki beach and oozes traditional Greek charm. barnes-international.com



This newly constructed four-bedroom home is on Marco Island, a barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico. You have direct access to the bay — and there's a hot tub for a post-sail soak, pacaso.com

From Greek bolt holes to sleek Maldives villas, Cathy Hawker chooses the most spectacular waterfront homes on sale now

ater. It's what we talked about for much of the arid summer and what we eagerly sought out on the hottest days, heading exuberantly to the coast or leaping into rivers to swim.

The joy of a waterfront lifestyle has been reinforced with a big, refreshing splash. Water brings calming, restorative benefits and is the ideal place to find the fresh air, open space and healthy lifestyle we all scrambled for post-lockdown. It's why family holidays often involve messing about in water, why the daydream of a beachside bolt hole persists, why retired folk head to the coast for

their later years. Yet that waterfront lifestyle is increasingly expensive. The average premium for a waterfront home is estimated to be 50 per cent in the UK and for an international home that percentage can rise steeply. In Sydney, famed for its harbour and beaches, a waterfront home carries a 121 per cent premium over a similar

property inland. Sydney led Knight Frank's 2022 International Waterfront Index for the global city generating the highest waterfront property price premium, followed by Auckland (New Zealand) with a premium of 76 per cent, the Gold Coast and Perth (Australia) at 71 per cent and 69 per cent respectively and Cap d'Antibes (south of France) at 59 per cent.

"The average international premium for a waterfront property compared with a non-waterfront home was 40 per cent in the second quarter of this year," says Chris Druce from Knight Frank. "A beachfront property was most sought-after, attracting an average premium of 63 per cent, followed by a harbour location and then a coastal one."

From the Pacific Ocean to the man-made canals of Venice, 71 per cent of our planet is covered by water: lakes, rivers, streams, canals and seas. Time to dive into our selection of inspirational (and aspirational)



The yachts in Porto Montenegro, the largest superyacht homeport in the Mediterranean, are equally as magnificent as Kotor Bay. It has 460 berths and has sold more than 400 homes The latest apartments are at Boka Place, due for completion in 2023, with 213 residences. portomontenegro.com



Splash straight into the lagoon on your own slide from a threebedroom overwater villa at Soneva Jani, plus catamaran nets to chill out over the water. Still feeling childish? The resort has a chocolate and ice cream room. sonevavillaownership.com



On Koh Samui, Thailand's second largest island, Samujana is a hillside resort with three to eight-bedroom villas with views over the Gulf of Thailand. Some of the villa roofs are planted, others have stone gardens or reflecting pools. The resort is close to the beaches of Choeng Mon and Chaweng. sphereestates.com



The resort of Sotogrande, on the Costa del Sol, is celebrating its 60th anniversary. Pier 1 is an exclusive development of a quartet of four-bedroom waterfront homes with private pools. The final flat for sale is on the ground floor. taylorwimpeyspain.com

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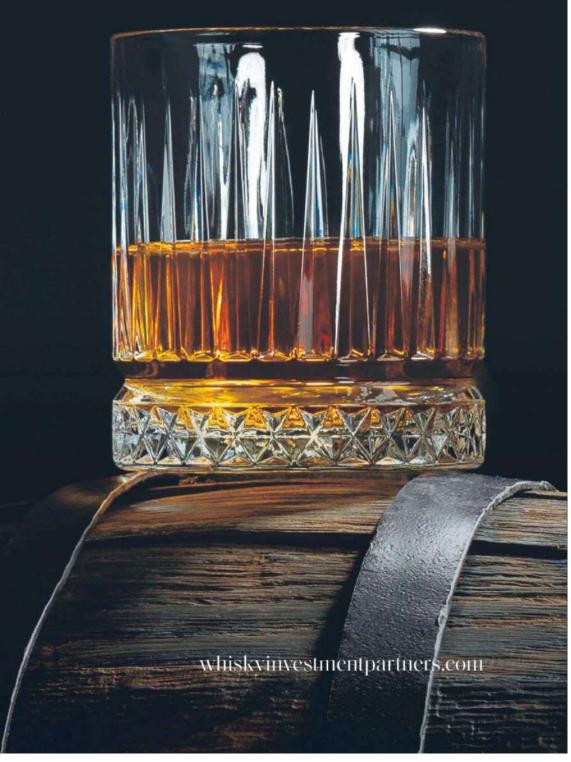
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#### ST LUCI

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#### GRENADA

A villa with direct access to Grand Anse beach, design style from the best in Europe — including B&B Italia and Molteni&C — and serviced by the five-star Silversands Hotel. **silversandsvillas.com** 



#### BAHAMAS

A six-bedroom house in family-friendly Sandyport in Nassau. The canalside property is perfect for water lovers — it is a short walk from the beach, has its own mooring and a private pool. **knightfrank.com** 



#### ITALY

This four-bedroom apartment is on the western banks of Lake Como. It dates to 1759 and spent the 20th century as a school before being completely renovated in 2008. **lakesideimmobiliare.com** 





#### MALLORCA

A five-bedroom. five-bathroom villa with wide terraces and a private swimming pool in southeast Mallorca on the Cala d'Or. The 500 sq m property overlooks the marina with the bonus of sea access. Palma airport is a 40-minute drive away, for flights to London from 2 hours 20 min, while the market town of Santanyí is within 15 minutes. mallorcasouth west.com



#### IBIZA

Watch the White Isle turn sunset-red from this westfacing home in Cala Gració. Bag a two-bedroom flat with bay views to Conillera island from the terrace along with sea access. **taylorwimpeyspain.com** 



#### **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

The Residences at St Regis, Cap Cana, are due to open next year with 70 homes, including eight penthouses, on a 16-acre beach site, alongside a hotel. **srresidencescapcana.com** 



#### INTIGUA

These 12 off-plan, three-bedroom Beach Houses in the sailing capital of Falmouth Bay are on a four-acre site facing the water and backing on to the national park. **onecaribbeanestates.com** 



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#### ENORCA

Built in 2001 in traditional style, this villa has four bedrooms, a barbecue area, and a large covered terrace. In the southeast village of Binibeca, you are a hop from the sandy beach. **engelvoelkers.com** 



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Gardeners' World host Adam Frost tells

Jayne Dowle how gardening has helped
him to recover from the turmoil of Covid

t first glance, Covid has not been kind to Adam Frost, the perennially cheerful co-presenter of *Gardeners' World*, who regularly invited viewers into the lush garden at Villa Farm, his family home near Stamford in Lincolnshire. He shared it with his wife, Sulina, 46, and their four children, plus an assortment of dogs, sheep, hens and a cat, Ash.

About a year ago, the 52-year-old contracted the virus. It was already a difficult time; Sulina had been ill in hospital and developed sepsis, then their daughter Amber-Lily, who was 15 at the time, became sick.

"Her mum was in hospital and she was really poorly too," Frost explains over the phone from his office, which is run by his eldest daughter, Abbie-Jade, 25. He and Sulina also have two sons, Jacob, 23, and Oakley, 15.

"Amber-Lily ended up with an eating disorder; like a lot of 15-year-olds, she had friends going through it at school. So that took its toll. Then nearly 12 months ago I got Covid and was locked in a room. We all got Covid. Then ten days later I was sat in front of a psychiatrist and a doctor and said, 'You know, I've got burnout and depression,' which was a surprise as I only went into the room with Covid. The wheels came off a little bit."

In another way, however, Covid has dealt Frost a positive hand of fate. The troubles the family endured led to the decision to sell Villa Farm and move, after Frost had toiled for more than five years to create the beautiful gardens familiar to television viewers.

The new house – two traditional stone former workers' cottages knocked into one – is in Stamford but with much less land than Villa Farm's three acres.

The front garden, where Frost is growing spinach and potatoes – "it's great, growing vegetables in the front, it's meant I've done a lot of chatting with my next-door neighbour" – extends 10m

from the front door. The north-facing back garden, which tiers up and away from the house, is  $40 \, \mathrm{m} \, \mathrm{long}$ .

"I was doing the 50-year-old bloke thing – I'm all right, Jack. I'm not," Frost says. "I think, in reality, life just caught up. No different to many people, I think. We sat down and we all went, 'What are we going to do?' We decided it was great with the house and the garden but actually what we realised was that it was great when everybody was well. "When your wife gets poorly and your

"When your wife gets poorly and you family get poorly, it's a stark reminder that there are other things in life."

As a result of these painful experiences, Frost has acquired a strong interest in how gardening can help with mental health

nelp with mental health and has contributed to a podcast series with a psychologist for *Gardeners' World*, scheduled for release in January. "For somebody who's always used a garden as a safe place, somewhere to escape to, when my head was all over the

when my head was all over the shop I couldn't find the garden as a place of solace, which is really weird.

"But now we've moved and I'm back in creation mode. Sulina and I were out there pottering around on Saturday and Sunday, and yes, it feels good. We decided it was better to simplify life, and now, I couldn't be in a better place," Frost says.

Luckily, Sulina, who worked as a

Luckily, Sulina, who worked as a manager for John Lewis when he met her in the 1990s, is a happy gardening convert, and appears in his latest book.

Frost was born in Harlow, Essex, and became a gardening apprentice at the age of 16 before going on to win seven RHS Chelsea gold medals as a designer. He agrees that any kind of outside space is a blessing: "If there was something to come out of all that [lockdown] madness it's that we got two to three million more gardeners. You don't even have to garden to get something from a garden, it can just be the place that facilitates so many other things. All sorts of different things can be









Left: Adam Frost in his Villa Farm garden, which features in his new book, How I Garden. Above, from left: Frost's daughter, Abbie-Jade, and his wife, Sulina, help out with the harvest from the raised beds. Far left: Frost caught the gardening bug as a child

helped, from loneliness to mental health,

physical health, growing food." Was he sad to leave behind his amazing collection of plants at Villa Farm? "I've spent my life creating gardens and then walking away from other people's," he replies. "But I think if you've created the amount of Chelsea gardens I've created, and put your heart and soul into them and then watched them dismantled on a Sunday in May, nothing really after that fazes you. The first two or three times you see that happen, it's, 'Oh my!' But for me, that's what I do for a living, I create gardens for people. And now we're on to the next one."

As well as monitoring "every nook and cranny" of the new gardens with his professional eye for the past nine months, to see how the light falls, where the damp spots are and how the soil behaves ("mulch, mulch and mulch" is his advice, and he uses well-rotted manure), and planting several trees to reduce the glare from strong sunlight, he has also been getting excited about his home's interior.
"We're busy doing this house up,"

he says. "It's a beautiful Lincolnshire stone. It feels safe, it feels homely. We already have a new kitchen. The kitchen is right in the middle of the property and the house goes around it. We've gone in and sorted the kitchen out. Strangely enough it's the first time in our lives we've actually been able to choose the things we want, rather than adapt or jiggle a little bit. It's been quite exciting really."

And presumably to pay for the new kitchen, he has been finishing the two books he was commissioned to write in lockdown. The first, The Creative Gardener, Inspiration and Advice to Create the Space You Want (RHS, £20) came out in March. The second, How I Garden, was published this week, and he's embarking on a national tour to publicise it next month.

Frost is dyslexic. He left school with CSEs in maths and drama for an apprenticeship with North Devon Parks





#### When your wife gets poorly and your family get poorly, it's a stark reminder that there are other things in life

Department, before working with the late Geoff Hamilton, who he cites as a huge influence, at his garden, Barnsdale in Rutland.

Frost's father, who died in 2012 and had worked as a landscape gardener, had uprooted the family from Essex on his own midlife volte-face.

Frost's teenage years were difficult; he ended up living on his own above a pizza parlour with the choice of "chef, army or gardener" for a career. He chose the last because he had happy memories from a childhood spent gardening with both his grandmothers, who are brought to life in his new book as "Tidy Nan" and "Scruffy Nan".

'Tidy Nan's garden had a typical Seventies suburban feel to it, with neat stripes on the lawn and lots of roses and bedding plants. Then there was Scruffy Nan. Her garden was a bit like Heligan before they found it, although not as big!"

He writes his books himself with the help of an old friend, Juliet Roberts. His no-nonsense approach reaches out from the page; his favourite mantra is

"get your hands in the soil".

In a gardening world where Monty
Don's existential crises keep middle-aged hearts a-flutter and there's a row raging over whether the word "gardening" should actually be cancelled for elitism, Frost's direct and engaging manner comes across like a solid, reassuring hand on the shoulder.

Yeah, it can be elitist. King Charles gardens, but then old Jim on the allotment gardens," he points out. "In a lot of ways, society/class wise, it can bridge everything. You rock up at the Chelsea Flower Show and they'll talk a lot about white Middle England and they'll be criticised for that, but I met a lad at Tottenham Hotspur Football Club and he's looking after their veg garden. He'd come across here as a refugee. And he got his hands in the soil and he was gardening. I don't know. I quite like being called a gardener, if that helps. It would be on my gravestone but they'll probably plant a tree."

He says that since sharing his new smaller garden with Gardeners' World viewers the reaction has been "quite fascinating – people are saying, 'Now you're building one that so many of us can relate to.'

That relatability is key to his appeal, whatever the woke warriors might say about elitism and cultural stereotypes. So, as the 6ft 1in runner, keen cricketer and sometime football coach turns an avuncular 53 this month, is he shaping up to become the new Alan Titchmarsh?

"I think Alan Titchmarsh is Alan Titchmarsh, isn't he?" he says, laughing. "He's my mate. I'm just me, that's all I am, I'm just me. I'm just this lad who loves doing what I'm doing, and for some unknown reason someone's decided to put me on the telly and talk about it. And I'll carry on doing it as long as it lasts, until someone taps me on the shoulder and says, 'Come on, Frosty boy, you shouldn't be in here.'"

How I Garden by Adam Frost (BBC Books, £22) is available nov



# TIME AND SPACE THE WAY WE LIVE NOW NICKY PHILIPPS

## The portraitist on painting the Queen and the 'charming' William and Harry

live in a house in South
Kensington, which has a studio.
Since my [2013] portrait of the
Queen, which is huge, I've been
receiving commissions on a
larger scale. I didn't have enough
space to work, so I now rent one of
the studios in Chelsea that were
purpose-built in 1894.

## Is it difficult to find an appropriate space to paint?

It's a huge problem. Over the last 40 years or so, studios have been considered trendy. They have been bought up by hedge fund guys and turned into flats. Generally, they don't realise that they are north-facing and they won't get a single ray of sunlight. North-facing is vital, because the light is indirect; consistent and cool, and flattering to skin tone.

## Do you paint from life, or from photographs?

It is much easier, and quicker, to work from life. That way, you can catch the essence of the person – a tilt of the head, for example. Conversation relaxes them. It takes their mind off trying to look good for the portrait. Usually I'd have six "live" sessions in my studio. It was slightly different with the Queen. She didn't come to me.

## How did you get into royal portraiture?

I had entered a self-portrait into the National Portrait Gallery's (NPG) BP awards in 2005. It had a striking red background, and I was in a green smock. When [in 2008] the NPG decided to commission a portrait of the two princes, Harry and William, I was short-listed – they had seen the exhibition catalogue with my self-portrait. When I was chosen, I went to breakfast with them at Clarence House. Unfortunately, all the suitable

rooms were south-facing. I'm afraid I rather threw my toys out of the pram and asked if they would come to me in South Kensington.

#### Was that problematic?

Not at all. Before their first visit, a policeman arrived to look around. William and Harry sat for five sessions of one-and-a-half hours each – three times together, twice separately. They'd arrive in full Blues and Royals mess kit, complete with swords and spurs, and my neighbours never noticed a thing.

#### How did the pose come about?

It was totally natural [see below]. Harry was perched on the edge of a table, and William was leaning against a pillar, waiting to be told what to do. They were looking at each other, talking and laughing. William was very much the protective elder brother, straightening Harry's belt. It was perfect, so I asked them to stay that way. They were both utterly

charming, quick-witted, and great fun. Harry was a very different man back then. I suppose my painting has acquired historic significance.

## Can you talk about the first time you painted the Queen?

I had three one-hour sittings at Buckingham Palace. She gave me an extra 20 minutes because she realised I was under pressure. It was enough for me to get the dimensions, skin tone, the essential qualities. She was chatting away about all sorts of things. She was incredibly knowledgeable and observant. Although she had huge respect for the institution of the monarchy, she had a vibrant sense of humour and sense of the absurd.

#### How did you go about the sittings?

I always use the "sight size" method that I learned at the Cecil-Graves school in Florence. It involves placing the canvas at the shoulder of the sitter, then stepping back to a given point to [mentally] fix the features on the canvas before returning to apply the paint. The Queen was standing, and she got quite irritated when people around her kept suggesting she sit down. She was 87 at the time. The commission, from the Royal Mail, was to paint a head-and-shoulders portrait, but I got carried away and made it full-length, then added the corgis. She must have liked it because it now hangs in Buckingham Palace. Interview by Teresa Levonian Cole

This interview was conducted before the Queen's death



Top: Nicky
Philipps in her
studio, next to
her 2013 portrait
of the Queen (and
corgis). Left:
Philipps' intimate
portrait of
Princes Harry
and William

HOME HELP

#### I WANT TO CONVERT MY BARN BUT IT HAS A BAT IN IT

We have a small, dilapidated

barn with an old corrugated-iron roof and a dodgy first floor. The ground floor is used as a log store and for the mower, the first floor as a furniture store.

We would like to reroof the barn in slate, replace the floor timbers and put in a new window so that we can use the first floor as an office. We understand this will need planning consent and the initial survey found evidence of a bat. A further survey (£1,150) found that we have one bat and an occasional other bat visitor. But the report goes on to say that we will have to build a 5m x 4m bat building with a slate roof with access at both ends to an unobstructed firstfloor area, before any work on the old barn can start. The bat is apparently the size of a plum. Is there an alternative or is this just bats? IT, Devon

It may seem batty that you must go to such efforts on behalf of an uninvited lodger, but all bats in the UK are protected by law and it is an offence to harm them or their habitats. It doesn't matter how many bats there are – even an uninhabited roost is protected (bats are not present all year round). Your single, plum-sized bat cannot be harmed or

disturbed, and prosecutions (and fines) for doing so are not uncommon.

Inconvenient though it is for homeowners, there is good reason for it – there has been a precipitous decline in bat populations over the past hundred years and some of the UK's 18 species of protected bats are rare and at risk.

You are right that the works to reroof the barn and insert a new window will likely require planning permission and, since bats are especially fond of the large roof voids of old barns, your local planning authority will be alert to the possibility of bats being present and will require a bat survey.

It seems inevitable that reroofing would disturb your visitors and you will need to take steps to ensure they are not harmed. The precise mitigation measures depend on a host of factors, including the species of bat and the nature of the roost. Your ecologist proposes the construction of an entirely separate building, with an area of 20 square metres and with a tiled or slate roof, to act as a new roost for the bats. This may seem extreme, but there is an absolute requirement to protect the bats. As with the advice of any consultant, if in doubt, seek a second opinion.

Martin Gaine, founder, Just Planning; author of How to Get Planning Permission

Send questions to homehelp@sundaytimes.co.uk. Advice given without responsibility

## READERS' CLINIC HOW CAN I OPEN MY STUCK FRIDGE DOOR? I HAVE TO PULL SO HARD TO OPEN IT

#### Trish Middleton, Newcastle

Your fridge is trying to get down to temperature for the amount of food stored. Try lowering the thermostat to 4. Minimise door opening. **Sheila Crawley** 

This is caused by a vacuum. Sellotape a matchstick or toothpick between the seal and door frame.

#### Cliff Crouch

In a vacuum, warm air contracts as it cools inside. Break seal using fingers and thumb on the join of the door at a central point. You can use two hands.

Place a small neodymium

magnet on the inside frame where it meets the closed door seal. It creates a little gap.

Alex Naysmith

Use your nails/ fingertips to break the seal as you gently pull the door.

Dave Hedgehog

#### **FUTURE QUESTIONS**

 Our daughter is constantly using fake tan, which stains the loo seat. How can we remove this?

• How do I clean my dusty chrome fan, and how do I prevent build-up in the future?

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LIZ EDWARDS



**Deputy Travel Editor** 

he Oueen got a pretty glorious last summer, didn't she? Yes, the grass went a bit brown and crispy in royal parks and commoners' back gardens alike, and there's really nothing funny to say about hosepipe bans and empty reservoirs. But if you can just set the whole climate crisis thing aside for a second and cast your mind back a few weeks, you might find yourself picturing UK summer scenes through the Vaselinesmeared lens of the heatwave. Alfresco bars, picnic lunches, leisurely swims that didn't require immediate dry robes and bobble hats – all are part of our collective heat-hazy memory.

When the heavens opened so decisively last Thursday they marked the end of the modern Elizabethan era, but also the end of a spell of weather that made it feel as if holidays were coming home. Travel is, of course, about all sorts of things besides getting a tan, but sometimes what lies at the heart of a holiday is the chance to relax somewhere warm. And why go to all the

bother of navigating airports and paperwork and eco-guilt when you could just relax somewhere warm in your own country?

So it's no wonder things are looking pretty rosy for the domestic accommodation sector – what you might call the UK's cottage industry. Not only are Brits feeling more confident than ever that rain won't stop play on a summer holiday on home turf, we might also reasonably expect to see more overseas visitors next year, sold on the images currently living rent-free on the world's screens.

No one, of course, is totting up what difference the Queen's death will make to the economy (even in a normal year, it's estimated that the monarchy accounts for a tourism draw worth £550 million). But still, inbound tourism chiefs surely won't have missed the fact that key overseas markets, tuning in to all things royal, have been treated to money-can't-buy coverage of glorious Highland scenery; sunny Aberdeenshire countryside; handsome



Edinburgh streets; leafy Windsor, below; open skies at Sandringham; and queueloving London. And what about those sceptical that the UK could live up to such

idealised images? Shout out to Center Parcs doing its bit last week to keep things (un)real.

For many people, this summer was the first year after the pandemic that

overseas travel really felt like a realistic option; it was understandable that some UK holiday companies reported a slower year than 2021. But next year is already looking like a different story. Besides warm weather and inviting TV scenes, other factors will surely feed in - cost of livingrelated concerns, and of course this year's inescapable (if rather panic-mongery) coverage of "travel chaos". Consider also the weak pound, a continuing trend towards flight-free travel, and even the rise in dog ownership.

The glamping specialist Canopy & Stars reports a strong summer this year but says that bookings for next year show a 100 per cent increase compared with this time in 2019. The luxury cottage company Cornish Gems says forward bookings over the last quarter are up 115 per cent on the same period in 2019, "indicating an increased desire to secure properties early for 2023". Some operators sound more cautious – Classic

Cottages says "our honest opinion is that it's looking good but it's too soon to tell" – whereas others are looking even further forward.
Coastal Cottages

points to an
"increasingly advanced
booking trend [that] only
seems to be rising as we look
forward to the 2023 and
2024 seasons".

Yikes, 2024? The truth is, if you have your eye on a particular property, it really is worth snapping it up now. Unique Homestays, for instance, says that its chic Anthology Farm (four-night stays for 18 from £7,195) is 77 per cent booked up for next July and August. It's alarming news for last-minute merchants like me – but good news for a country in need of a boost.

Have you got next summer booked up already? Or would you prefer to wait? Let us know in the comments on thetimes.co.uk, via Twitter at @TimesTravel or by writing to travel@sunday-times.co.uk BIG SHOT

#### **OVER THE MOON**

The harvest moon delighted nightsky watchers everywhere last weekend as it appeared in its fabulous dusky pink across the northern hemisphere. The view from West Orange, New Jersev shows the moon rising behind midtown Manhattan





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FOUR DAYS FROM



## **Inforthe** long haul

#### **LETTER OF THE WEEK**

My daughter and I flew from London to Perth in 2018 and I'm still in therapy ("Sydney-London nonstop", last week). We were in the economy cabin of a full plane, and at about the 14-hour mark the flight attendants all fell out with each other. If you can afford business class, go for it; if you can't, stop over in Singapore.

Yvonne Ryan, via thetimes.co.uk

The best part of the journey to New Zealand and Australia for me has been having fantastic four-day layovers in Asia. I can't think of anything worse than spending 21

hours on a plane, even in business class. There's really only so much entertainment and food one can take.

Helly Hansen. via thetimes.co.uk

#### **MUNICH MAGIC**

Don't miss Munich's Deutsches Museum ("Big Weekend", last week). It's the biggest science and technology museum in the world and as fascinating for adults as for children. MD57, via thetimes.co.uk

The Asamkirche, or Asam Church, is a stunning example of baroque architecture, and one of the very few buildings I've gone back to see again the next day. Also, watching the robots in action on a guided tour of BMW World

was riveting.

Gwilym Hughes,

🔍 For a less touristy beer cellar try Hofbräukeller, to the east of the Isar, and nearby Rosi Kaffeehaus does a great breakfast. And if you can manage it after all the food and drink. there's a really friendly parkrun in Westpark.

Frank McLeod, via thetimes.co.uk

#### **KEEP WALKING**

Don't bother with the Edale Skyline ("Top 7 UK hikes", last week) it's rubbish. Only us locals enjoy it, because we can't afford to go elsewhere. Move on, please. There's nothing to see here. BG, via thetimes.co.uk

Share your experiences, opinions and tips with us by emailing travel@ sunday-times.co.uk. tweeting @TimesTravel or commenting on one of our stories at thetimes.co.uk

## POSTCARD FROM...

## TORONTO

The Queen's death, leaf-peeping and the film festival have seen shifts in the city's mood, says Katie Bridges

very year after Labour Day – celebrated on the first Monday of September in Canada – I sense a drop in energy among Toronto's residents. This statutory holiday is a swansong to summer: from here it's one big tumble down the autumnal hill into pumpkin patches, Halloween and fireworks. This year, however, the solemn end-of-season feeling was accompanied by the tangible end of an era, with the Queen's death on September 8. Opinions about the monarch's

status as Canada's head of state swing from politely antimonarchist to slightly fuzzy. But there is one thing most Canadians agree on: the former sovereign's funeral should mean a day off work. Unfortunately the prime minister, Justin Trudeau, has declared tomorrow a holiday for federal government employees only, leaving it up to the individual provinces to decide the rest of the population's fate. Here in Ontario the "day of mourning" (read: not a day off) has cemented Torontonians' muted feelings

While sporting events and shopping face disruption in the UK, life in Toronto has continued as normal. The Toronto International Film Festival, concluding today, dusted off its red carpet for the first time in two years and the city has been electrified by snaking queues of movie devotees - the only tears came from fans clamouring for Harry Styles's autograph outside the Fairmont Royal York hotel. Like Brits, Torontonians are known for seeing a line and joining it – particularly if a dessert or celebrity is waiting at the end – but images of the four-mile queue in London to see the Queen's coffin have left people here scratching their heads.

Last Tuesday, the who's who of the city's culinary scene gathered at Evergreen Brick Works in the Don Valley. Usually this former quarry is home to Toronto's largest farmers' market, but instead it was filled with top chefs crossing their fingers, hoping to receive the stars they've been wishing on since they first put on whites.

Toronto is the first city in Canada to

be inducted into the Michelin Guide. Not everyone is celebrating, though, with some predicting the esteemed publication will breed prima donnas and a worrying return to form, after a pandemic overhaul of the low pay and long hours for Toronto's chefs and servers. Others complain the guide will drive up the cost of eating out. Canadians,

like everyone, are feeling the pinch on grocery bills and restaurant owners are already hiking prices.

It's not all bad. One pleasant pandemic side effect was a relaxing of Ontario's liquor laws, meaning lovers of trendy natural wine and local brews can now buy them at cafés, food markets and independent grocers. Sunday's draconian 6pm closing time for the province-run off licences remains, though, and those fond of a

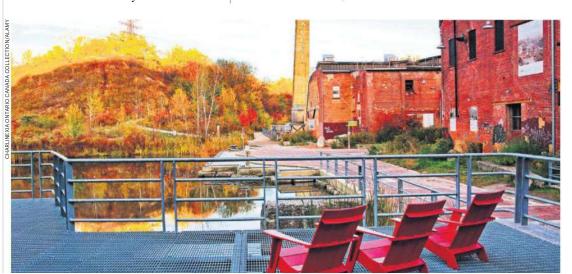
boozy picnic will have to wait – a lifting of the ban on drinking in parks has been delayed until 2023. Until then the hipsters frequenting Trinity-Bellwoods (a west end enclave) will have to keep hiding their fashionable hard seltzers in plain sight.

Even so, the more relaxed approach to alcohol has added to the feeling that the city was reborn during the summer. Concerts made a return, with the Budweiser Stage on Lake Ontario hosting nostalgic shows from the likes of Backstreet Boys, Alanis Morissette and Sum 41. The rapper Drake – so beloved he's essentially Toronto's unelected mayor - also recently opened History, his own nightclub and concert venue.

As the leaves begin to turn, the city's residents are looking towards autumn. The weather isn't as balmy this year – and that may mean the leaf-peeping colours will be more vibrant - but it's not time to snuggle up just yet. For now there is palpable excitement for sweater weather. Perhaps we're all putting on a brave face ahead of winter – and its inevitable snow which will be here in the blink of an eye. But until then we'll raise a cup of pumpkin spiced latte to welcome the advent of King Charles III and the brightly coloured autumn days ahead.

Katie Bridges is a food writer and editor who has lived in Toronto since 2015





**Above: Harry Styles. Below:** autumn colours as seen from **Evergreen Brick Works** 



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## Travel Profile



## In his latest TV series he finds fireworks, festivals and sombre scenes – but keeps looking on the bright side of life. By *Katie Gatens*

or some, a return to travel post-pandemic meant booking a villa in France or splashing out on an all-inclusive on the Costa del Sol. Never one to follow the crowd, Michael Palin went to Iraq.

The former Monty Python star has been pushing boundaries since his landmark 1989 adventure series *Around the World in 80 Days*. Subsequent programmes have taken him from pole to pole; to the Sahara and the Himalayas. The Palin effect has prompted flurries of holiday bookings to destinations such as Peru, Nepal and eastern Europe after episodes from his TV series sparked viewers' wanderlust.

You might think that the same is unlikely to happen on the back of his latest series, but with Palin you can never be quite sure. For *Into Iraq* he travels the length of the Tigris River, from Lake Hazar in Turkey to Basra, in the south of Iraq; from mountain to sea through dozens of military checkpoints, travelling 1,000 miles in three weeks. He stops in the cities of Mosul and Erbil as well as Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit and the Green Zone in Baghdad. He visits oilfields that are usually off limits to the public and ascends the 9th-century Malwiya Mosque in Samarra, once the largest of its kind.

Palin admits being fascinated by the country ever since being given a children's version of *Arabian Nights*. The aim of the TV series? To show Iraq beyond the headlines – a country that 5,000 years ago was the birthplace of civilisation, and one that's now looking to the future after decades of war and destruction.

A grand mission statement, maybe, but

the most stirring scenes in the three-part series come from unscripted moments. There's a gut punch in the mostly empty Mosul old town, as Palin walks around streets where houses once stood. As he talks about the 10,000 people who died in attacks to purge the city of Islamic State five years ago, he encounters children playing with a catapult in the rubble. After joining in with their game he asks if they remember the fighting. They nod.

"F\*\*\* me – sorry, I didn't mean that, but it's hard; you can see the devastation," he says to camera, his voice breaking. Then, without missing a beat and with a wide grin, he says: "Anyway, I must be a bit more cheerful. Let's go and find somewhere fun."

Palin is used to looking on the bright side of life. Was he ever afraid? "You don't go into these things expecting to be frightened and fearful," he says. "I go into them expecting to be absolutely fine." The only drawback, he says, was not being able to leave his hotel at night

Michael Palin is on the road again. Below, Akre and the Newroz festival



to go for a drink in the neighbourhood bar and speak to people there.

However, his "relentless optimism" as he calls it, did take a beating. He visits areas where Isis is still active, as well as the site of the Camp Speicher massacre in 2014, the second-deadliest terrorist attack in history, in which 1,500 Iraqi cadets were killed by Isis. In Baghdad he recalls checking into a hotel room only to wake the next morning and find a bullet hole in the window pane.

It's not all war-torn scenes, though. Palin is fitted for a £1,000 business suit in moneyed Erbil and finds Kurdish culture thriving in Akre for the festival of Newroz, involving flaming torches and fireworks—glimmers of hope emerging from a country ravaged by war.

Visiting the oil reserves of Kirkuk he sheds light on the institutionalised governmental corruption that leaves a huge disparity of wealth in Iraq. He reflects on what the recent rise in the price of oil means for the 40 million people who live in the country. "The oil money in other Gulf states has made cities such as Dubai and Qatar like Manhattan," he says. "It just hasn't happened in Iraq, and that's frustrating to see. That [money] has somehow got to be filtered down into education and making a better society."

The series also showcases the landscapes beyond the main cities. Magnificent biscuit-coloured mountains with hilltop towns chiselled into them in the north make way for great plains in the south and, of course, huge expanses of desert. The country is undergoing a severe drought, and Palin meets farmers who

see water as the commodity with most value in Iraq.

By Palin's own admission he is
"getting on a bit", needing a doctor's note
to travel after having open-heart surgery
in 2019 and now aged 79. Not that you'd
notice. In another extraordinary scene

from the series he teeters up the 52mhigh spiral minaret of Malwiya Mosque; on one side a handrail, on the other a vertical drop.

Palin says that his wife, Helen, is usually supportive of his far-flung travels, but for his trip to Iraq, along with his previous one to North Korea, his family were "a little nervous – because of the reputation of the countries. I feel enormously privileged and grateful to be able to do as much travelling as I have in the past 35 years," he adds, "but at a certain point you have to be careful about

what you do next."

That point might not be in the near future, though – he jokes about finding another dangerous place in order to "go there and try to survive".

It doesn't sound as though he'll take much convincing. His doctor, on the other hand...

Michael Palin: Into Iraq starts at 9pm on Tuesday on Channel 5. The Foreign Office advises against all travel to Iraq

#### **3 PALIN-INSPIRED TRIPS**

#### HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS

Forget trekking to the touristy and expensive Everest Base Camp (as Michael Palin did for the wildly popular 2004 documentary series Himalaya) and instead get to grips with the Indian Himalayas with stays in four villages in the Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary, once the capital of the Chand Dynasty. You'll have jaw-dropping views of snowcapped peaks as you walk through valleys, foothills and jungle, coming across temples and an array of tropical birds, and maybe even a leopard. **Details** Eleven nights' room-only from £998pp, including transfers and some meals (villageways.com). Fly to Delhi

#### **FIRST-TIMER'S PERU**

Palin's 1997 series Full Circle, which took him around the rim of the Pacific Ocean, put Machu Picchu on the map. On this trip taking in spots that he visited, you will get the chance to stay overnight at the ancient Incan city and

see it as few others do. Other highlights include lunch at Lake Titicaca and a guided tour of Cuzco.

**Details** Nine nights' B&B from £2,595pp, including flights, transfers and some extra meals (coxandkings.co.uk)

#### CAPTIVATING CAPPADOCIA

Palin visited the otherworldly landscape of Cappadocia in his 2007 New Europe documentary, causing a boom in internet searches for trips to central Turkey. Starting in Istanbul, you'll see the key sites of old Constantinople before boarding a short flight to Cappadocia, where you'll explore cave houses and frescoes in 10th-century churches carved into the mountains. Finish the trip at the beach in Bodrum.

Details Seven nights' B&B from £4,500pp, including flights, excursions and some extra meals (scottdunn.com)

Katie Gatens



expecting

frightened

and fearful

to be

## **Travel Culture**

Visit these headline shows on an arty escape this autumn, says Sean

Newsom

#### **MASTERS IN VIENNA**

One of the first exhibits you'll see at *Idols & Rivals*, a new show at the Kunst Historisches Museum (KHM), is a 2,500year-old Greek vase. It's signed by the Athenian painter Euthymides, yet what he's written on the back about his rival Euphronios is far more interesting: "As Euphronios never [would have been able to paint it]," he crows.

'Competition has always played an important role in art," explains Gudrun Swoboda, the curator. To help prove it, she and her collaborators plundered the KHM's world-class collections before adding

in 60 international loans, including works by Michelangelo, Cellini and Tintoretto.

The story they combine to tell is not simply one of contemporaries vying for recognition; other contests were intensely private. Particularly striking is the juxtaposition between Titian's Woman in a Fur Coat of 1535 and Rubens's tender portrait of his wife, Helena, similarly wrapped in fur. Rubens was painting a century after Titian and had seen – and copied – the earlier work. Did he then parade his new achievement? "No, this was a very intimate work," Swoboda says. "It was still hanging in his home after his death."

**Details** September 20 to January 8; £18; khm.at

Beyond the exhibition Hungry? Head to &flora, about five minutes' walk from the KHM. This buzzy new restaurant is big on veg, treats meat as a side dish





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See art saved from the Nazis in Basel, above. and Self-portrait in Uffizi by Lavinia Fontana in Vienna, top. Right, the State Museum of Art in Copenhagen and a room at the 25Hours Hotel in the same city

and uses herbs from its roof garden (sharing plates from £10; undflora.at).

Once you've refuelled, move on to the Albertina. the KHM's great rival for blockbuster art this autumn. It's showing 50 incendiary works by the 1980s sensation Jean-Michel Basquiat (until January 8; £16; albertina.at).

Nearby, the elegant and arty Altstadt Vienna hotel has creaking parquet floors and lovely church views (B&B doubles from £155; altstadt.at).

#### **TILLMANS IN NEW YORK**

Ever since Wolfgang Tillmans was awarded the Turner prize in 2000, his work in photography, video and other image-making has been the subject of big museum shows. It's a wonder, then, that New York has taken so long to give the German artist a retrospective, but finally the city's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) has obliged. Spread across its sixth floor, To Look Without Fear charts the extraordinary breadth of a polymath career in no fewer than 350 works.

"I wanted to create different rhythms between the rooms," says the curator, Roxana Marcoci, and her presentation is as varied as Tillmans's subjects. Expect giant floor-to-ceiling photographs and dense constellations of smaller





images, plus Moon in Earthlight, a new image driven soundscape that lasts 53 minutes. One thing, however, remains unchanged: Tillmans's honest, unflinching and subversive gaze.

Details Until January 1; £21; moma.org

#### **Beyond the exhibition**

The MoMA makes lunch easy courtesy of a range of cafés

and restaurants, including the Modern Bar Room, where dishes include polenta with black trumpet mushrooms

(mains from £21). Later, fans of lonely diners and flickering neon are advised to head across town to the Meatpacking District, where the Whitney Museum of American Art will soon be showing Edward Hopper's

New York paintings

(October 19 to March 5; £21; whitney.org).
Also here is the hip,

18-storey Standard hotel, the floor-to-ceiling windows of which gaze out over the Hudson River and the High Line walkway (room-only doubles from £287: standardhotels.com).

## COPENHAGEN GOES CRIMSON

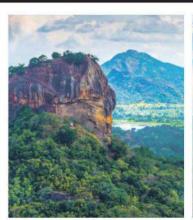
The world took years to wake up to Henri Matisse's L'Atelier Rouge (Red Studio) – it wasn't until the MoMA bought the painting in 1949 that a generation of artists were alerted to the power of monochrome colour. Now hugely influential, Matisse's 1911 masterpiece, which depicts his Paris studio flooded with Venetian red, will arrive at the State Museum of Art (SMK) in Copenhagen next month.

Accompanying it will be several of the contemporaneous works that hung in his studio, plus new research proving the composition was anything but premeditated - all that decisive, courageous rouge was an act of obliteration as much as creation: Matisse was, it turns out, overpainting an earlier version of the scene. "Today, the work still speaks to us as fresh and radical," says Dorthe Aagesen, the chief curator and senior researcher.

Pair it with the SMK's exceptional permanent collection of Matisse's work Continued on page 8→

## TRAILFINDERS

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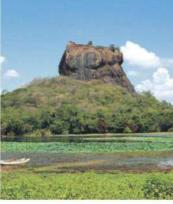
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## Travel Culture

→ Continued from page 7 and you're in for an early-20th century treat. Details October 13 to February 26; £14; smk.dk

### **Beyond the exhibition**Head to the Torvehallerne

food hall for a snacky lunch of tacos designed by former Noma pastry chef Rosio Sanchez (from £5; lovesanchez.com).

You'll then not be far from a new show of abstract paintings and towering sculptures by Sean Scully at the Thorvaldsens Museum (until March 5; £10; thorvaldsensmuseum.dk).

Positioned rather handily – almost exactly between the SMK and the Thorvaldsens Museum – the bright and buzzy 25Hours Hotel is home to the kind of big, loungey bar and restaurant that you never want to leave (room-only doubles from £138; 25hours-hotels.com).

#### **PARIS GOES PREHISTORIC**

In a city full of creations from the 19th and 20th centuries, here's a fresh angle on humanity's artistic impulse – an exhibition, Arts et Préhistoire, of works from the 400th to 150th centuries BC. Courtesy of the anthropologyfocused Musée de l'Homme at the Trocadéro, 90 portable sculptures or religious objects will be teamed with immersive digital recreations of cave art to showcase our sudden prehistoric flowering.

Those anticipating a Euro-centric view will be disappointed – alongside thundering horse herds from the caves at Lascaux you'll see vivid evocations of hairy Indonesian pigs and lithe South African antelopes. And don't expect patronising views about art by primitive people. "As Picasso said, there is no progress in art," says Aurélie Clemente Ruiz, the museum director. "The people who created these works were real artists. They had considerable expertise in preparing their surface, creating their colours and composing their images." **Details** November 16 to May 22; £10; museedelhomme.fr

## Beyond the exhibition

For a reasonably priced gastronomic lunch, cross the River Seine to Au



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Enjoy a Veranda Suite on all inclusive aboard Seabourn Ovation



#### 7 nights fr £4,199pp Inc flights

Seabourn Ovation represents an evolution in small ship cruising, with extraordinary dining experiences, complimentary champagne, spirits & premium wines and a world-class spa.

Embark in Lisbon and cruise to Gibraltar, Tangier and Melilla in Morocco, and on to Alicante, Valencia and finally Barcelona in Spain. Stay in an ultra-luxury Veranda suite on all inclusive basis

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**Enjoy an Ocean Front Suite on all inclusive aboard Seabourn Quest** 



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#### **Greece & Dalmatian Coast**

Enjoy a Veranda Suite on all inclusive aboard Seabourn Encore



#### 7 nights fr £3,499pp inc flights

See the highlights of Greece and the Dalmatian Coast on this wonderful cruise. Embark in Athens and cruise to Monemvasia, Katakolon (Olympia) and Nydri in Greece, then to Brindisi in Italy, Dubrovnik and Zadar in Croatia and finish in Venice. Your ship, the ultra-luxurious Seabourn Encore offers a wealth of dining options, activities and entertainment. Stay in an Veranda suite on all inclusive.

#### **Windward Island Jewels**

Save £1,400 all inclusive aboard the small ship Seabourn Ovation



#### 10 nights fr £4,775pp Inc flights

Experience a relaxing pre-cruise stay in Barbados with 3 nights at the fabulous 5\* O2 Beach Club & Spa. Cruise to St Lucia, Dominica, Antigua, St Kitts & Nevis, Martinique, Trinidad & Tobago then back to Barbados. Complimentary premium spirits and fine wines available on board at all times. Welcome Champagne and complimentary in-suite bar stocked with your preferences in your spacious Veranda suite.





Left, a gold statue on the Trocadéro in Paris, above, where you can see prehistoric art at the Musée de l'Homme Bon Accueil. Its three-course menus feature treats such as hearty veal stews and a pavlova with coconut mousse, passion fruit and Philippine lemon (£33; aubonaccueilparis.com).

From there it's a short walk to the Musée du Quai Branly, where you'll find more fabulous art outside modern western traditions, with the focus on indigenous cultures in Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Americas (£8; quaibranly.fr).

Also nearby, the pretty little Hôtel du Champ de Mars is part of a lovely little foodie quarter centred around the Rue Cler market (room-only doubles from £165; hotelduchampdemars.com).

#### **OUTLAWED ART IN BASEL**

Art can scare people. It can enrage them too, and in the midst of our own spittle-flecked culture wars, here's a reminder of where all that fury can lead.

In Switzerland's cultural capital, the Kunstmuseum Basel will show 87 works saved from the bonfire of modernist paintings that followed the Nazis' modernity-hating Degenerate Art exhibition. These pieces were bought from the Nazis at auction in what was a controversial act at the time, as acknowledged by this new show, Castaway Modernism. Nevertheless, there's no doubting the stature of what was saved Picasso, Gauguin, Kokoschka and Chagall all feature.

Even more moving are



in a forest consumed by fire. **Details** October 22
to February 19; £23;
kunstmuseum
basel.ch

**Beyond the exhibition** 

The other must-see in Basel is the Fondation Beyeler - in the city's eastern suburbs – thanks to a collection that stretches from Claude Monet's ravishing lilies to Marlene Dumas's unsettling contemporary portraits (£22; fondationbeyeler.ch). Return to the city centre for a feast of the gastronomic kind at the French brasserie Au Violon, which occupies

a former remand prison

(three courses from £34; au-violon.com).

La République in

LA. View Boy with Cat, below

**Becker in Basel** 

left, by Paula

**Modersohn-**

Within ten minutes' walk is Hotel Nomad, a converted 1950s apartment block with design-savvy rooms (roomonly doubles from £126; nomad.ch).

#### **SOUTH KOREAN ART IN LA**

From the head-turning Kia electric cars to delirious K-pop music and the biting black humour of the Bong Joon-ho film Parasite, South Korean design and culture are clearly having a moment. The timing of a new exhibition titled The Space Between:The Modern in Korean Art couldn't be better, then. Hosted by the lovely, airy Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), it lifts the lid on a long 20th-century tug of creative war between

tradition and modernisation, with old-fashioned ink on one side and oil paints and photography on the other.

"Initially it seemed like an either/or situation," says Virginia Moon, the curator. Over the course of 130 works, however, she hopes to demonstrate how South Korean culture became "an almost infinite spectrum of amalgamations" between foreign and native influences. Look out for Quac Insik's *Work*, a stark and eloquent bullet hole in wired glass from 1962, and the hypnotically serene Women and Jars, which was painted by Kim Whanki during the Korean War. **Details** Until February 17;

£21; lacma.org

#### **Beyond the exhibition**

Delve into the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, next door to the LACMA. Among its unexpected treasures are casting directors' notes on Scarlett Johansson, Matthew McConaughey et al before they were famous.

Follow that up with lunch at La République, a café, bakery and bar inside a building once owned by Charlie Chaplin (salads from £15; republiquela.com).

Up on Hollywood Boulevard, the Hotel Roosevelt has similar 1920s pedigree to complement a buzzing poolside scene (room-only doubles from £209; thehollywood roosevelt.com).

## TRAILFINDERS THE TRAVEL EXPERTS

## FIND your adventure in Yukon & Saskatchewan



#### Yukon

Follow in the footsteps of the Gold Rush pioneers and discover historic frontier towns, larger than life scenery, wildlife, and of course, the Northern Lights.

Travelling this far north you can expect dramatic peaks, shimmering lakes and possible moose, bear and wolf sightings. The pristine wilderness offers excellent hiking trails and with the Yukon River pulsing through the territory as its thriving lifeline, the Yukon really is larger than life.



likely to be the works of

those such as Elfriede

Lohse-Wächtler, who

was murdered in a

former psychiatric

hospital in 1940.

The curator, Eva

to draw parallels

between 1937

and the present

day. "It's difficult

moment in time to

experiencing now,"

lessen the emotional

impact of the works,

she says. But that won't

especially Max Beckmann's

angular, anguished Descent

Marc's Fate of the Animals, set

from the Cross and Franz

anything we are

to translate that

really specific

Reifert, is keen not

younger artists whose careers

were crushed by the Nazis

#### Yukon Great Escape 9 nights from £2,579

Direct flights, hotels, White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad, Goldbottom Mine Tour, Tombstone Territorial Park Tour & selected transfers

Discover the local wildlife, incredible landscapes and small towns of the Yukon and uncover a fascinating history of railroad exploration, mining and frontier legacy.

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Journey into the prairies and explore rolling hills and open plains on horseback, discover the landscaped parks in Saskatoon and learn about the world-famous Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Regina.

Regina • Historic town of Moose Jaw • Saskatoon • Wanuskewin Heritage Park • La Reata Ranch



#### Saskatchewan

Land and sky are ever-present influences.
Nature is always in your backyard. Even at the centre of Saskatchewan's major cities, Regina and Saskatoon, you are only minutes away from impressive landscapes and wide-open spaces. Blaze your own trail as you experience the traditional cowboy lifestyle first-hand at an authentic working guest ranch, where the hospitality, hearty home-cooked meals and stories around the campfire are all in a day's work.



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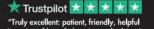
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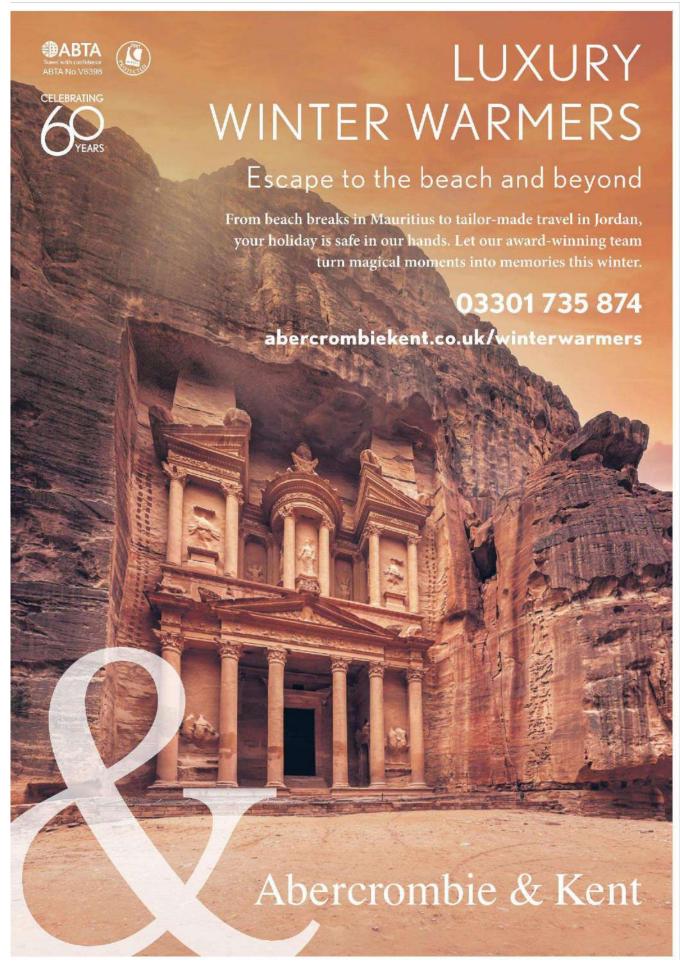






# ZAKYNTHOSTH

The island may have a party reputation but it's very different up in the north. It's also home to private villas that come with hotel-style services. *Manveen Rana* gets the best of both worlds



am gazing out at a tempting infinity pool, which merges with the glittering waters lapping the edge of the coast below and the wider, deeper blue of the Ionian Sea beyond; add a swathe of clear, uninterrupted sky and the view is a perfect study in blue. The thrum of cicadas fills the air like an orchestra of maracas and rattles. No other sound on Earth makes you feel so properly away from it all.

And I really do feel away from it all here at Villa Nidri, in the northern hills of Zakynthos. This fine modern retreat from city life is pristine (just a year old), built of stone and big wooden beams with shady verandas. and winding terraces of peach trees and bougainvillea leading to the garden. The pool looks down to the port of Agios Nikolaos, or St Nicholas. Little boats drift in and out of the harbour that surrounds an uninhabited islet. This must be the best view on Zakynthos.

The property is run by Indigo Rock, a villa specialist that rents out luxurious properties with a concierge service, launched by the team behind the nearby Peligoni Club – a renowned private beach club that's been a big draw for tourists to this part of the island for years. The boutique Peligoni Club offers private weekly membership for tourists, who can enjoy water sports and children's activities. While Peligoni has always had access to a number of villas hidden away in the hills, available to rent along with membership to the beach club, Indigo Rock is a departure as the villas can be booked separately, without involving the beach club, although some of its concierge services are engaged. So if you're holidaying without kids and just want a private villa plus a helping hand, this is the service for you. All the villas are finished to an exceptional standard and are very private.

Anouska "Noosh" Shearer, one of the resourceful managers at Peligoni, is on hand to offer advice to villa guests. The concierge service books restaurants and excursions across the island, while providing access to the club's particularly well-stocked store, the Deli & Kitchen, a local hub and a great spot for lunch or dinner with a view.

Best of all are the hampers it provides. We arrived to find



the villa fridge brimming with salads, olives and tangy feta, fresh hummus and tzatziki, fluffy flatbreads, wine and delicious brownies.

We'd also requested a breakfast hamper, which arrived the following morning stocked with warm croissants, homemade jams, an enormous fruit platter and that star of Greek living: fresh yoghurt and thick, gloopy honey. The fruit



# EQUIET SID



on Zakynthos is a wonder. Our eyes popped at the sight of planet-sized watermelons and tiny Zante grapes, an island speciality.

Villa Nidri has an outdoor cooking and dining area next to the pool, so we also tried one of the deli's barbecue hampers – a selection of marinated meats, fish and vegetables ready for you to sizzle. We lit the barbecue,

filled our glasses and watched the sunset blush gently. With so little light pollution, the night sky was magical. We lay around on hammocks and sunloungers, gazing at the stars. In fact, we spent more time soaking up the night sky than the sun – we were lucky enought to see the Perseid meteor shower, a succession of shooting stars that hurtled across the heavens.

two names and two very distinct personalities. It was named Zante by the Italians after it fell under Venetian control for 300 years. In 1797 the island came under French reunified with Greece in 1864 before the Second World War brought the Italians back again. Now firmly under the

Zakynthos is an island with they left, but the name stuck as and then British control. It was

> For a more bracing exploration of the coast, we hired a speedboat with a skipper named Aldo to zip us from St Nicholas Port to the little blue caves near the northern tip of the island (£260 for an afternoon). The history of Zakynthos is punctuated by earthquakes that destroyed many buildings and gave the coast its ragged edges. We wove our way around rock arches and ruined

of Agios Nikolaos and the

Greek flag, the island has been reclaiming its identity and its name.

In recent decades "Zante" has been famed for its nightlife and the tourist hotspots in the south, that name more commonly used in budget brochures. As "Zakynthos", the island pops up in the works of Homer, and in the north it feels as if little has changed since Homer's Odyssey was written. The same dramatic hills, covered in olive trees and thick green brush, rise above the sea. It's so peaceful here that the only traffic jam we experienced involved a row of geese crossing a dusty road.

A turbulent history has created much confusion. We were told that the little islet in the middle of the harbour below us isn't Greek after all. St Nicholas Island was allegedly forgotten in the paperwork when Zakynthos was handed back, so officially it still belongs to the Vatican. Luckily for the local fishermen who make use of it, the Pope forgives their trespasses.

The best way to see this side of Zakynthos is by boat; Peligoni can arrange tours using its vintage yacht, aptly named Odyssey. The boat is crewed by a lovely couple, Jimmy and Carla, who provide expert access to the nooks and crannies of the coast while gently topping up drinks and being attentive hosts.

They took us around intriguing outcrops, sulphur springs and hidden beaches, dropping anchor in an idyllic cove so we could swim to shore to explore some caves and make use of the yacht's paddleboards while a lunch feast was prepared. We tucked into roasted peach and manouri cheese salads and the juiciest prawns while the waves lapped against the boat. The afternoon drifted by in a radiant glow.

Unsurprisingly, excursions on Odyssey are sometimes used as the romantic backdrop for marriage proposals (the yacht and crew cost £800 for a half-day, including lunch).

Zakynthos, top; the port pool at Villa Nidri, left

monasteries before exploring some of the bigger caves, lit up by sunshine bouncing off the brilliant water.

A speedboat is also the easiest way to explore the brochure-famous Navagio (or Shipwreck) Beach, and it's best to head out early, before the crowds arrive. The combination of perfect sand, clear water and that dramatically stranded vessel make it an Instagram staple, and a top source of local legend. In 1980 a gang of modern pirates ran the ship



### filled our glasses and watched the sunset blush gently

aground in a storm while allegedly carrying contraband. The smugglers escaped, but the islanders who helped them are rumoured to have been rewarded with some of the bounty.

The port below the villa is also the place to catch the car ferry to the neighbouring island of Cephalonia. The vovage takes an hour and 20 minutes, the boat leaving every morning and returning each evening, which gave us just enough time to see the amazing Melissani and Drogarati caves and stop for a taverna lunch before the ferry "home" back to the villa.

A car is essential in north Zakynthos. You'll want a 4x4;

something we realised the hard way. The only downside to finding such a genuinely unspoilt location is that Google Maps hasn't yet spotted the new roads. At every given opportunity it will redirect you down an ancient donkey track instead. We found six-minute journeys suddenly turned into hour-long epics as the car grappled with the rocky road, the back wheels kicking up a sandstorm.

On one occasion we were on our way to dinner at one of the best restaurants in north Zakynthos, the Old Windmill, on top of a hill with fabulous 360-degree views. It serves some of the best dishes on the island: courgettes with pesto, watermelon and feta salads. swordfish and moussaka.

As Google Maps led us up another gravel path, however, dinner seemed to be off the menu as our car got stuck.

But there's a wonderful village spirit to this part of the island. When he found out what had happened, the ebullient owner of the Old Windmill clambered cheerfully down the hill to rescue us. Rolling up his sleeves, he tried to move the car, and when that failed, he ushered us up the hill to enjoy a glorious dinner. At the end of the night he and his cousin drove us home across the hills. It was an extraordinary show of big-hearted hospitality.

As we reluctantly packed up, Jacky, the villa manager, empathised. "I only came to Zakynthos for one summer," she said. "That was 20 years ago. I just fell in love with the lifestyle, and I couldn't quite face going back to normality." I knew exactly what she meant.

Manveen Rana was a guest of Indigo Rock. Seven nights' selfcatering at Villa Nidri for eight from £3,500 (indigo-rock.com). Fly to Zakynthos

#### **3 MORE GREEK VILLAS WITH BENEFITS**

## ATOKOS HOUSE LEFKADA, IONIAN ISLANDS

They used to be called reps, but now it is "destination experts" and "concierges" who visit guests of upmarket villas such as the sea-view Atokos House, near the pretty beach and town of Sivota on Lefkada's south coast. At this villa an expert will be on hand to arrange boat hire, cookery classes, and wine tours and tastings. Details Seven nights' half-board for eight from £2,183pp, including flights (cvvillas.com)

## VILLA LEXIE ANTIPAROS, CYCLADES

White Key Villas has properties throughout the Greek islands, the most exclusive of which don't feature on their website. All benefit from a concierge

service — someone to book heli transfers, boat tours and off-radar restaurants. Sample it all at Villa Lexie. close to Apantima beach. Details Seven nights' self-catering for ten from £5,417 (whitekeyvillas.com). Fly to Paros or Athens,

## CORFU, IONIAN ISLANDS

then ferry to Antiparos

At the hilltop Angsana Corfu, there's a glacial geometry to the 37 villas (one to fourbedroom: some split-level). with Hockney-esque topaz pools. You'll find total privacy when you fancy it, and great in-resort fusion dining when you don't. **Details** Seven nights' B&B for four from £4,705pp (gicthevillacollection.com). Fly to Corfu



## Travel Oueen Elizabeth II

## Richard Mellor highlights the churches, castles and palaces where you can honour the Queen

## 1 BUCKINGHAM PALACE, LONDON

A colossal sea of roses, lilies, other flowers and candles have been deposited outside Buckingham Palace, and the Palace has asked mourners to instead leave tributes nearby at Green Park's Floral Tribute Garden or at a dedicated site in Hyde Park. You'll be invited to remove plastic wraps and not to bring any other noncompostable items (or marmalade sandwiches). Routes are clearly signposted.

You're still welcome to gather outside the palace gates, where people have been seen sharing memories of the monarch, although there are long queues to do so. The traditional Brompton Hotel, a short walk away across posh Belgravia, is also close to South Kensington's museums. **Details** Room-only doubles from £151 (bromhotel.com)

#### **WESTMINSTER ABBEY** AND HALL, LONDON

Today is the final full day the Queen's coffin will lie in state at Westminster Hall. Members

of the public will continue to be allowed in through the night until 6.30am tomorrow. That said, the length of the queue east along the South Bank towards Southwark Park means it may already be too late to join with much chance of reaching the front in time.

While there are portable toilets located at various points, there is next to no shelter and little opportunity to sit as you'll be constantly moving. Rules about what you can or cannot take into Westminster Hall can be found on the House of Commons website (parliament.uk).

Tomorrow, up to one million people are predicted to descend on London, and opportunistic hotels are selling out at highly inflated prices. Research by *The Times* shows that windowless, 13 sqm rooms at the Z Hotel Victoria cost £450 tonight, up from a starting price of £110, while almost all properties listed on Booking.com around Victoria Station are fully booked. **Details** Premier Inn London Southwark (Bankside) has

room-only doubles from £158 (premierinn.com); Safestay Hostel in Elephant and Castle has room-only doubles from £175 (safestay.com)

#### **WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE**

Windsor, Daniel Numerous tributes are being left at Windsor Castle, the Queen's main residence. These should be placed at Cambridge Gate at the beginning of the three-mile Long Walk into the Great Park, but do check the official royal family website (royal.uk) for the latest instructions. Noncompostable items, such as teddy bears or plastic wrapping, should be avoided.

Each evening, every bouquet will be brought inside the castle grounds and laid on the grass outside St George's Chapel. The castle has hosted Britain's monarchs since the 12th century, making it Europe's longest-occupied palace. The plush De Vere Beaumont Estate in Old Windsor is handily close by.

Details B&B doubles from £340 (devere.co.uk)







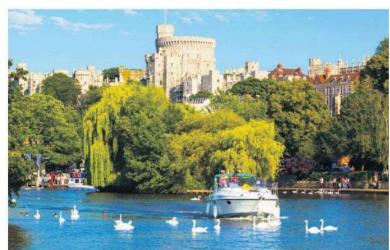




**劉ABTA** 



From far left: tributes have been left in **Green Park in** London; Westminster Abbey, the venue for her funeral tomorrow; Windsor Castle her main residence since **2011** 



# BALMORAL, ABERDEENSHIRE

Since Her Majesty died at Balmoral Castle, mourners bearing cards, candles and flowers have flocked to the royal Deeside home. Visitor car parks are now once again open. Eight miles east of Ballater – the nearest town to Balmoral – is the Commercial, a family-run village inn. Details B&B doubles from £130 (thecommercialhotel.co.uk)

# HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE, CO DOWN

Flowers can be laid on the forecourt in front of the main

gates of Hillsborough Castle, the official residence of the monarch in Northern Ireland. To enter the pretty Co Down village, use a free shuttle system (translink.co.uk/royal) from Lisburn's train station via the same town's Eikon Exhibition Centre. The buses are running from 10am until 8pm each day until at least the end of the mourning period. Five miles south of the former prison, Homestead Hillsborough is a smart, terraced block of staffed apartments with a shared lounge.

Details One night's self-catering for two from £110 (homestead

# hillsborough.com) **EDINBURGH**

6 EDINDUNG On Monday, the Queen's coffin travelled to St Giles' Cathedral, which is halfway between the Palace of Holyroodhouse and the city's baronial castle. At this procession, thousands of mourners lined the adjacent Royal Mile before 24 hours of lying in state at the cathedral. The cathedral's opening hours have been affected, with updates posted on its website (stgilescathedral.org.uk). Premier Inn still has space in several of its city hotels.

**Details** Room-only doubles from £174 (premierinn.com)

# **CATHEDRALS, CHURCHES** AND TOWN HALLS

All around the UK, town halls and churches have opened books of condolence for people to enter a tribute to the Queen. Acknowledgements have also been laid on war memorials and in some public libraries, museums and guildhalls. Visit your council's website to find the nearest site. Westminster Abbey is unable to accept tributes, but some of the country's grandest cathedrals are open for visitors to pray, light candles or sign condolence books including its oldest, in Canterbury (canterburycathedral.org). Steps away is the Cathedral Gate hotel, with four-poster beds. Details B&B doubles from

£179 (cathgate.co.uk)

8 AT HOME OR OVERSEAS The royal family's official book of condolence is online (royal.uk) – anyone around the world may sign it and send a message of support. Additionally, physical books of condolence are likely to be opened at many British embassies and in main cities of all Commonwealth nations.



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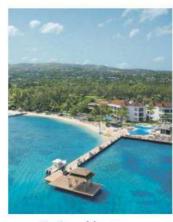


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4th Nov 2022	In Search of the Northern Lights	Dover	14	Balmoral	L2230	£1,099	With code <b>SAVE</b>
5th Dec 2022	River Cities & German Christmas Markets	Liverpool	9	Borealis	S2231	£699'	
14th Dec 2022	Festive Spanish City Break	Liverpool	8	Borealis	S2232	£599°	
3rd Jan 2023	Winter Warmth in the Canaries	Southampton	14	Bolette	T2301	£1,599	Free Drinks
5th Jan 2023	Borealis Searches for the Northern Lights	Liverpool	15	Borealis	S2301	£1,999	Free Drinks
17th Jan 2023	Mediterranean Islands with Cyprus	Southampton	19	Bolette	T2302	£2,099	Door-to-Door
3rd Feb 2023	Civilisations of Cape Verde & Morocco	Liverpool	18	Borealis	S2303	£2,299	Door-to-Door
5th Feb 2023	Wintertime Norwegian Fjords	Southampton	6	Bolette	T2303	£749	Free Drinks
27th Mar 2023	Uncrowded Iceland	Newcastle	10	Bolette	T2307	£1,499	Free Drinks
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# Day 3 Board Silver Spirit

Sail away on Silver Spirit and let it change the way you connect with the ocean. The impeccable service, luxury dining options, spacious surroundings and amazing choice of included excursions will exceed your expectations.

# Day 4 Relaxing at sea



# Days 5-6 Walvis Bay, Namibia

Walvis Bay is a colourful African call, where you can meet some of the continent's most flamboyant wildlife. Here you'll have time to enjoy a choice of included shore excursions; from a 4x4 desert dune adventure, to a Dolphin & Seal Cruise.

# Days 7-8 Relaxing at sea

# Day 9 Mossel Bay, South Africa

Halfway between Cape Town and Gqeberha lies the sunny, shallow waters of Mossel Bay. Sink your toes into the pristine sands of Santos beach the only decision to make is just how active you want to be with guided hiking trails or local wine tasting being just two of the included activities on offer.

# Day 10 Gqeberha (Formerly Port Elizabeth)

Gqeberha's proximity to the excellent nature park of Addo Elephant Park makes it a fantastic destination for game lovers to see the fabled Big Five. Here you'll have the option to experience a 4x4 safari so make sure you have your cameras at the ready.

# Day 11 Relaxing at sea

# Days 12-13 Richards Bay

Considered as the official gateway to Zululand, Richards Bay has morphed from being a tiny fishing village into a bustling harbour town. Enjoy even more game drives if you wish or learn about the culture of a local village on a quided tour.

# Days 14-15 Durban

One visit to vibrant Durban with its colourful waterfront complete with street performers will quickly make you see the reason why people love it so much.

# Days 16-17 Relaxing at sea

## Days 18-19 Cape Town

Return to this enchanting capital and pick up where you left off with a host of sights and activities at your disposal.

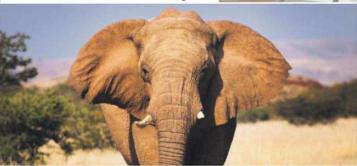
# Days 20-22 Cape Winelands

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Days 23-24 Fly home to the UK, arriving the following day



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  - shore excursions at each port of call\*
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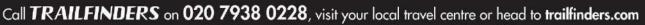
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# ALL YOUR ARRANGEMENTS TAKEN CARE OF IN ONE PLACE







# Travel Hiking

Few visitors make it to the country's north, but a walking trip there is a thing of joy, says *Kate Humble*, complete with wild horses, old stone villages and crowd-free beauty





love a map. And the map of northern Portugal is a good one: a seemingly impenetrable swirl of tightly packed contour lines and spot heights that is as alluring as it is daunting. This is where I am now, amid the landscape those swirling lines represent, glass of vinho verde in hand, basking in the glow of satisfaction that comes with knowing that this is a drink

MISS

well earned.

For the past few days my husband,
Ludo, and I have been exploring these
mountains on foot. Although we have
covered far less ground than we would
have done by car, this immersive
introduction to a part of Portugal we
didn't know at all but have long wanted
to visit has given us so much more than a
few pretty photos of big views. At walking
pace you don't simply see a place: you
hear it, smell it, interact with it. Looking
back at the map now, we can retrace not
just our journey, but recall small details
and incidents that give us the feeling of
having actually been here, as opposed to
just passing through.

We started our walk on the slopes above the pretty town of Arcos de Valdevez, dropped off by taxi at a trail into the Peneda-Geres National Park. The vegetation was familiar – bracken, gorse and heather. Small brown butterflies flitted across our path. A buzzard circled lazily in a cloudless sky. As we rounded a bend, the soft jingle of bells alerted us to a small herd of cows grazing on a slope above us. They were particularly beautiful: cachena cattle, local to the region. They look like Jersey cows – small and copper-coloured with big, kind eyes and enviably long lashes. But their spectacular horns, shaped like the

handlebars of a 1970s
Chopper bicycle,
lend them the air of
superiority that some
people have when wearing
a magnificent hat. There were
herds of wild horses too,
standing nose to tail, swishing at
flies while their gangly foals
hovered in the shade of the
adults or lay, spreadeagled by the
heat, on the close-cropped grass.
For it was hot. Like the UK and

much of Europe, Portugal was in the grip of a heatwave. Not ideal walking weather, but at least our route for the week would take us through a scenic mix of expansive high country; ravines and valleys; cool, deeply shaded forests of pine, oak and mimosa; and through small villages. Here, vines heavy with grapes grew over trellises that arched across the narrow lanes between houses, casting welcome, dappled shadows.

And every time we came across water, we got into it. As we were nearing the end of our first day, approaching the village of Soajo where we were to spend the night, our track led us down an incline to a bridge crossing a small stream. The water was clear, flowing over large, rounded boulders. Almost hidden by the bridge there was a gap between the stones that looked big and deep enough for submersion. It was heaven. I'm amazed we didn't hiss like hot pans being run under a cold tap.

It is a sad truth that many of the villages in this region of Portugal are dying. Lovely old stone cottages are left derelict; the small fields and terraces that surround them, the result of unimaginable hard labour, are now





**Every time** we came across water, we got into it

overgrown and abandoned. But Soajo is different, thanks to the collective efforts of residents such as Rosa and Pedro.

Generations of Rosa's family have lived in Soaio. It's where she grew up and where she and her husband run a small restaurant. Rosa cooks the food of her heritage: bacalhau, and cachena beef cooked long and slow in the oven, served with rice and beans – more stew than pilaf – and so full of flavour you purr when you eat it. Her aunt left her one of the old granite village houses typical of the region and Rosa and Pedro restored it, turning it into two self-catering apartments, one of which we stayed in. It was full of traditional furniture and ornaments, comfortable and homely. Rosa had left things in the fridge for breakfast and the makings of a picnic for the following day's walk, and bread from the village bakery was delivered to our door the next morning.

The house was just off the little village square. Soajo has a long, somewhat regal history and although today fewer than 1,000 people live there permanently, it is very much a "living village" with a

supermarket, an active church, a small but brilliant museum and one of the best hardware stores I've ever visited. The gardens and terraced fields are cultivated and grazed; there are pots of colourful flowers, sleepy cats and barking dogs in the yards. Stacks of firewood await the winter. And on an exposed outcrop of granite on the very edge of the village are 24 espigueiros - small, stone, sarcophagus-like granaries used for



Kate Humble, top; the Rio Caldo valley near Vilar da Veiga above; cachena cattle and espigueiros granaries, left;

a typical dish of

bacalhau, below

storing maize, topped with crosses for

divine protection. We returned to Soajo the following night after walking part of the Via Mariana, a pilgrim route that took us to the village of Peneda. It was a lovely walk – probably my

favourite of the week. We climbed out of Soajo on a track of granite boulders sunk into the earth and so old that the stones carry the scars of decades of cartwheels passing over them. As we gained height the landscape opened up before us: a dizzying view of soaring crags, plunging rifts down to unseen rivers and tiny villages scattered among the trees. We ate our picnic by a hilltop shrine, in the

shade of pines and the company of dragonflies and flycatchers, looking out at Peneda in the distance with its huge 18th-century Santuario de Nossa Senhora da Peneda looming above the houses. A few hours later, having climbed the hundreds of steps up to the church, we swam in a spectacular hidden pool thanks to a local man who let us in on the secret. We celebrated the end of a glorious day with a beer, awaiting the taxi to return us to Soajo.

This is the great luxury of a walking trip like this. I've done a few long-distance walks, usually on my own, carrying a tent and living off dehydrated rations, and although I love doing them both for the challenge and the feeling of being entirely self-sufficient – they are not what many, including Ludo, consider a relaxing holiday. I try to cover more than 20 miles a day; personal hygiene is rudimentary, food basic, sleeping arrangements spartan and route-finding a bit hit and miss. I've done group walks with a guide too, and although it is infinitely easier to have someone else worry about the logistics and not getting lost, I'm not sociable or patient enough to enjoy them.

Here we got the best of both worlds, walking between overnight stops in places ranging from village houses to a truly beautiful hotel in an old monastery. Meanwhile, our luggage was seamlessly transferred between them, leaving us to carry the few things we needed each day. And although we were walking alone - so we could travel at our own pace, stop when we wanted, birdwatch and look at bugs (me) and poke around archaeological and ecclesiastical curiosities (Ludo) - we had a guide in the form of meticulous step-by-step notes and background information. They led us unerringly from one shower, crisp bottle of vinho verde and comfortable bed to the next.

Nor were the routes long – never more than about ten miles a day – although this being mountain country our legs were properly stretched, our hearts raced, and there was a fair bit of puffing and panting. But the rewards were undeniable. This is a scenically stunning part of the world, yet surprisingly we saw very few other walkers. Not once did we sweat up to a viewpoint to find it crowded with people pouting into their phones.

And now, via the spa town of Geres, the valley of the Rio Caldo and the pilgrimage town of Sao Bento, we are at the end of our journey, looking back at the lines on the map, no longer daunting but pleasingly familiar, inviting us to wonder where we might walk next.

Kate Humble was a guest of Inntravel. which has seven nights' B&B from £925pp, including transport and some extra meals (inntravel.co.uk). Fly to Porto

# Travel City breaks

# THE **BIG** WEEKEND

gnore the haters who dismiss
Milan as cold, workaday and
lacking charm. Here is a city that
is overflowing not just with style
– Fashion Week starts on Tuesday
– but also with history and beauty,
beginning at the Piazza del Duomo and
radiating out to its elegant, fascinating
neighbourhoods, blending the classic
Italian experience with the heady vibe
of Italy's only real "world city".

### **WHAT TO DO**

- Milan's Renaissance-gothic cathedral started in 1386 and not fully completed until 1965 really is one of the most beautiful buildings in Italy (£5; duomomilano.it). It's massive too: by some estimates, the third-largest church in the world. The surrounding square is home to some of Milan's other showpieces: the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II shopping arcade, the Palazzo Reale exhibition space (palazzorealemilano.it) and the Museo del Novecento, which houses some of the most important Italian art of the 20th century (£9; museodelnovecento.org).
- Only a short walk from the Duomo, yet strangely quiet, is the 18th-century Church of San Bernardino alle Ossa (free; sanbernardinoalleossa.it). Its adjacent ossuary is one of Milan's most memorable places: a chapel containing thousands of skulls and bones, many arranged into crosses and other religious symbols. It's an astonishing sight, though perhaps not for the squeamish.
- For some relaxation, take a stroll in one of Milan's two huge parks: the sprawling Giardini Pubblici Indro Montanelli home to the recently opened Museo della Fondazione Luigi Rovati and its impressive collection of Etruscan artefacts (£14; museo.fondazione luigirovati.org); or the more manicured Parco Sempione, bookended by the landmarks of the Sforza Castle (courtyard free, £4 for the museum; milanocastello.it) and the Arco della Pace.
- Get a feel for the tastes of early 20th-century Milanesi at Villa Necchi Campiglio, one of the city's most exquisite "house museums" (£12; fondoambiente.it). The surrounding area is known as the Quadrangle of Silence and is a paradise for lovers of art nouveau architecture. Search out Villa Invernizzi; it's closed to the public but peek through the iron gates for a surreal sight: a lush garden full of flamingos.
- Moving south it's worth checking out the Fondazione Prada contemporary art centre, housed in an old industrial warehouse renovated by the Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas, with a bar designed by the film director Wes Anderson (probably the only time you'll see those two names in the same sentence). There's always something cool on, but the vibe alone is worth the visit (admission varies; fondazioneprada.org).
- Afterwards mosey on over to Navigli, Milan's formerly gritty canal district, which has undergone a renaissance and become one of the city's coolest spots. It's a popular place for an aperitivo and dinner, especially at the newly renovated Darsena waterfront.

# THE COOLEST NEIGHBOURHOOD

Isola or "Island" – so called because it's isolated by railway tracks from the rest of the city – is Milan in microcosm, an area that bridges bourgeois and boho, elegant and seedy, business and pleasure. Wander the urban oasis that is Parco Biblioteca degli Alberi and admire the



# Fashion, history and street art abound. By Alex Sakalis

Bosco Verticale (vertical forest), lauded as some of the world's most beautiful skyscrapers. Nearby, the Casa della Memoria is a building-cum-monument commemorating the fight against fascism with frequent exhibitions and events (free; casadellamemoria.it).

Feeling peckish? Isola's newly restored market in Piazzale Lagosta has top-quality produce and some of the city's best pizza by the slice – try Mi Pizza Milano. Amid the graffiti-covered streets full of arty boutiques, dive bars and chic restaurants sits the Church of Santa Maria alla Fontana, built about 500 years ago around what was thought to be a miraculous source of water. The water is still there, covered by beautifully frescoed porticoes (free; mariamadredellamisericordia.it).

# **WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

White Rabbit Speakeasy

The ambience at this cryptic bar in Isola feels like a cross between Lewis Carroll and David Lynch. Creative cocktails, attentive service and occasional avant-garde live music will make you glad you fell down this particular rabbit hole (cocktails from £6; whiterabbitmilano.it).

The bar is designed by director Wes

## I Nusc

This self-described "pasta laboratory", also in Isola, is the place to get your (lunchtime-only) carb fill. Try the incredibly fresh tagliatelle with pork cheek and pumpkin (mains from £10; inusc.wordpress.com).

Anderson



### Warsa

One of multicultural Milan's best offerings is this divine Eritrean restaurant with its bazaar-like interior. Delicious curries are served on a giant pancake that you eat with your hands. Vegetarians are well catered for here (set menu from £17; ristorantewarsa.com).

### Ratana

Artful Ratana takes Milanese cuisine to the next level with one of the city's most eclectic menus. Its osso bucco is fabulous (mains from £20; ratana.it).

### **Mandarin Oriental**

Super-chic fusion cuisine in a leafy courtyard includes excellent fish dishes, especially the ceviche. It's a great place for cocktails too. Booking is essential (mains from £33; mandarinoriental.com).

## 28 Post

The tasting menu at this effortlessly cool spot in Navigli is a mystery until it's served, but you can trust chef Marco Ambrosino. A typical five courses could involve hip spins on oysters, octopus, gazpacho, sea bass and steak which, along with a dizzying array of amuse-bouches, are apt to leave diners both full and happy (five-course tasting menu from £56; 28posti.org).

# WHERE TO STAY Ostello Bello

This funky, friendly hostel is ten minutes' walk from the Duomo. Its ground-floor bar is a great place to meet fellow travellers (dorms from £44pp, room-only doubles from £162; ostellobello.com).

# Hotel Milano Navigli

Try to nab a top-floor room for some astounding views from this hotel on the edge of Navigli's canal district (B&B doubles from £140; hotelmilanonavigli.it).

## Grand Hotel et de Milan

This luxury five-star hotel was once home to Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi; his old room is one of several elegant suites you can stay in (room-only doubles from £494; grandhoteletdemilan.it).

# IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING

Climb up to the Duomo rooftop for the best view of Milan's eclectic skyline. Gothic spires and glass skyscrapers stretch towards the Alps (from £9; duomomilano.it).

# **TIMESTravel**

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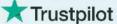


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# Flyaway favourites. 10 great ideas for a sunshine getaway

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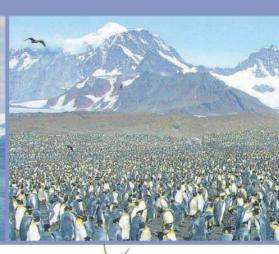




# Noble Caledonia







# IN THE WAKE OF SHACKLETON

Discover the wonders of the Falkland Islands, South Georgia & the Antarctic Peninsula aboard the MS Island Sky - 15th February to 8th March 2024

In today's highly accessible world there are few places that still hold the power to enthral and enchant. Antarctica is certainly one of these. Mere words cannot do justice to the awe-inspiring spectacle of this most southern of continents, this desert of ice which is so unique and uncommon to man's experience, that even the most dramatic of photographs pale into insignificance when one is confronted by the sheer magnitude, beauty and wonder of the landscape. It is a land that has consistently challenged and inspired men of extraordinary character to deeds requiring extreme courage. The expeditions of Scott, Amundsen, Shackleton, Ross, Byrd and many others are a shining example of honour, strength and perseverance which today still inspire us.

Our voyage begins in Ushuaia from where we will be followed by albatrosses as we sail to the Falkland Islands for our exploration of these isolated islands thriving with wildlife and a fascinating history. We continue to South Georgia where we have ample quality time ashore to explore what is one of the world's natural wonders with a remarkable concentration of wildlife. Finally we sail for the peninsula where enormous tabular icebergs rise from the sea, hillsides are covered with thousands of penguins and seals bask on icebergs. On our way to the Peninsula we hope to sail past Elephant Island, the island on which Shackleton's men endured 128 days before finally being rescued. We have timed our expedition for what is regarded as summer when whale and dolphin sightings are at their peak, penguin chicks begin to fledge and the snow algae is in bloom.



MS ISLAND SKY is one of the finest small ships in the world and offers exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites, beautifully appointed public areas and high standards of service and food. Accommodating a maximum of just 118 passengers, all suites feature a seating area and some have a private balcony. The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a lounge, elegant bar, library with internet access and a single seating dining room. Outside there is a rear sun deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade, a bar, observation area and comfortable deck furniture. The atmosphere on board is akin to a private yacht or country hotel and you can be assured that after a day of exploration ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well-run and luxuriously appointed comfortable small ship.



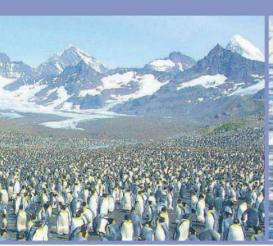








# SMALL SHIPS - BIG EXPERIENCES WITH NOBLE CALEDONIA







# THE ITINERARY IN BRIEF

Please note that flexibility is key to a successful expedition in Antarctica. Although we have outlined an itinerary below, this is only a preliminary plan, our exact route will depend on ice, weather conditions and the wildlife we encounter.

Day 1 London to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Buenos Aires. Arrive and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. Enjoy a leisurely afternoon to either relax in the hotel or join an orientation tour of the city. The evening is free for independent exploration.

Day 3 Buenos Aires to Ushuaia. After breakfast we will transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Ushuaia. On arrival transfer to the MS Island Sky and start our adventure this evening as we cruise down the Beagle Channel.

Day 4 At sea. Among the wildlife spotting opportunities as we sail south are albatrosses, prions and petrels that frequently follow the ship. During our day at sea our onboard experts will begin their presentations with informative and entertaining talks on the wildlife, history and geology of the Falkland Islands and Southern Ocean.

Days 5 & 6 Falkland Islands. The Falkland Islands are isolated and windswept, a haven for wildlife. Our two days should coincide with the end of the breeding season for the many seabirds that make these islands their summer home. We hope to include stops at Grave Cove, home to the largest colony of gentoo penguins in the Falkland Islands and see the rockhopper penguin colony and black-browed albatross on West Point Island. We will use our Zodiacs to find a suitable location to land and take walks ashore for a closer look. We also plan to call at Stanley, the charming capital of the Falkland Islands, and discover some of the many historic sites on the island.

Days 7 & 8 The Southern Ocean. As we cruise the Scotia Sea towards South Georgia, the richness of these waters will be evident in the marine mammal life, especially the fur seals on fishing forays. We have a good chance of spotting whales whilst the birds circling our stern will be outstanding, especially the large albatrosses and numerous breeds of petrels.

Days 9 to 11 South Georgia. We have three days of expedition cruising in and around South Georgia, a paradise island with snow-clad mountain peaks rising 9000 feet and with 165 glaciers tumbling down towards the sea. For anyone interested in wildlife, South Georgia is a true oasis. During our time here we hope to visit Salisbury Plain where we will find enormous elephant seals which crowd the beaches alongside 60,000 breeding pairs of king penguins. In Fortuna Bay we will see nesting light mantled sooty albatrosses and hope to

witness their gracious courting flights as well as the few thousand king penguins that nest here. In Gold Harbour as well as gentoo and king penguin colonies, the adolescent fur seals of the season dominate the beaches while southern giant petrels constantly patrol the site for feeding opportunities. Whilst at St Andrew's bay we encounter the island's largest king penguin colony as well as being home to over 6,000 southern elephant seal cows during the pupping season. Meanwhile in Grytviken we will visit the old whaling station and of course pay our respect at the grave of 'the boss' – Ernest Shackleton.

Days 12 & 13 At Sea. The waters between South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula are rich with fin whales, where in good conditions we have seen as many as a hundred in a day. If not whale-watching, look out for Antarctic petrel, Kerguelen petrel and one of the most beautiful birds of the Southern Ocean, the snow petrel. The icebergs will also become more plentiful as we sail south. If conditions permit we may land at the South Orkney Islands. Meanwhile during our lecture programme we will learn more about the wildlife and history of the region.

Days 14 to 18 Antarctic Peninsula & South Shetland Islands. We have five days of exploration around the Peninsula which will include many of the best places for wildlife and magnificent scenery. Whilst we arrive with a planned itinerary the final schedule will be determined by our Captain and the Expedition Leader based on sea, weather and ice conditions. Using our Zodiacs we will make daily landings for unique close encounters with animals such as Adelie and gentoo penguins, fur seals and petrels. We hope to visit the collapsed volcanic cone of Deception Island for a chance to visit Whalers Bay,

encounters with animals such as Adelie and gentoo penguins, fur seals and petrels. We hope to visit the collapsed volcanic cone of Deception Island for a chance to visit Whalers Bay, see the glaciers of Cierva Cove, the leopard seals at Pleneau Island, the stunning mountain lined Neumayer Channel and Half Moon Island with its rookery of chinstrap penguins. We also hope to sail through the breathtaking Antarctic Sound, also known as 'iceberg alley'.

Days 19 & 20 The Drake Passage. Enjoy a final two leisurely days on board and reminisce with your fellow travellers about all you have seen and experienced during our expedition. Attend some lectures, look for wildlife or simply relax as we make our way across the Drakes Passage toward Ushuaia. This is a particularly good area to spot royal albatross and blue petrel and we will also be on the lookout for whales. We will arrive on the final evening in Ushuaia and berth overnight.

Day 21 Ushuaia to Buenos Aires. Disembark and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Buenos Aires. On arrival transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. This evening we will take in a tango show with dinner.

Day 22 Buenos Aires to London. After breakfast we will transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Day 23 London. Arrive this morning.

# MS ISLAND SKY Small Ship Cruising at its Best

Antarctica is to be experienced, not just to be seen, and we believe the only way to do this is on board a small ship in order to maximise the time spent ashore. To enjoy the wonders of this icy paradise in the company of a small and enthusiastic party is the perfect way to achieve the most from a visit to this extraordinary place and travelling with you on board will be polar expedition experts and naturalists who will add immeasurably to your experience. There are ships in Antarctica carrying higher numbers of passengers than the 100 guests on board the MS Island Sky, however due to the restrictions placed on vessels as to how many passengers may land at any one time, the larger vessels can only offer very restricted landings, whereas with the MS Island Sky, we are able to follow the strict Antarctic rules and yet have all guests ashore at the same time. For most travellers the Antarctic experience is a once in a lifetime visit, it is therefore important that the trip should be as rewarding as possible and our expedition will certainly be so both in terms of the educational experience on board and the number of opportunities to go ashore.

# PRE-CRUISE IGUAZU FALLS EXTENSION

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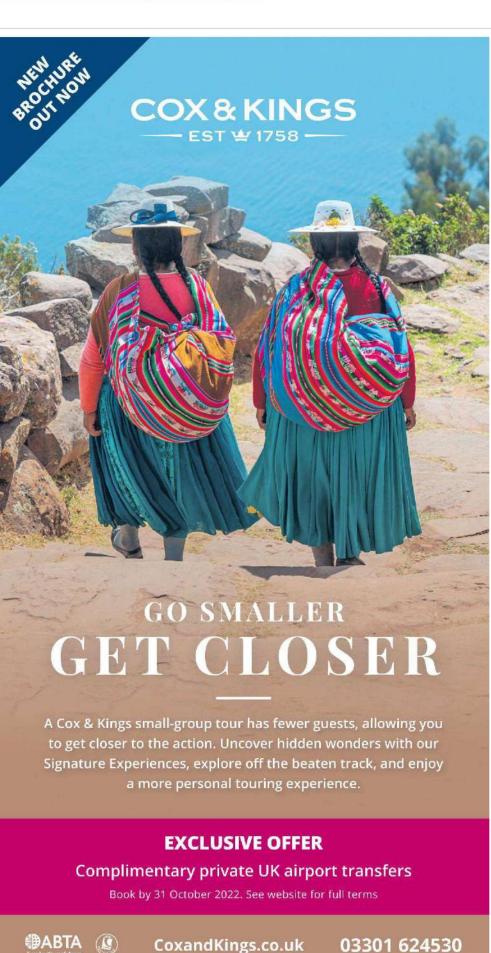
- 18 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch &
- excursions Tango show in Buenos Aires Gratuities
- Transfers Use of parka jacket and waterproof boot on board.

NB. Itinerary subject to change. Zodiacs will be used regularly during this expedition. All special offers are subject to availability Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations. Travel insurance is not included in the price.

# Travel Georgia



Phenomenal food, incredible scenery and surprises at every turn – it's about time Georgia was on our minds, says *Peter Howarth* 



n the east of our country they like to give people nicknames," says our guide, Koba, as we stop off to take in yet another spectacular view over Georgia's rolling countryside en route to its wine region.
"There was this one guy who was always arguing with his neighbours about his fences. They called him Putin!"

Russia and its president are never too far from the conversation in Georgia. In the 19th century the country was under Russian rule; later it was invaded by the Red Army and became part of the Soviet Union. It declared independence in 1991. Then in 2008, in a move that foreshadowed recent events in Ukraine, Russia invaded Georgia. Two areas remain under Moscow's control. The big country to the north casts a long shadow here.

Geopolitical concerns, however, were not why this little country bordering the Black Sea was top of my travel list. Back in 2020, when new flights meant that Georgia was being touted as the next big thing in tourism, I began reading about its music, cuisine, art and architecture; about the buzz of the capital, Tbilisi, the beauty of the mountains and the extraordinarily good food. About the Georgian people's boisterous, independent spirit - their pride in their culture and their hospitable, sunny nature. Some call them the "Italians of the Caucasus".

I planned a two-week trip,

I planned a two-week trip, starting in Tbilisi, driving west via Gori, Stalin's birthplace, and Georgia's ancient capital not far from the Black Sea before heading north to go hiking in the Caucasus, and finally east towards wine country. Whatever my expectations were, they were consistently exceeded.

There were surprises everywhere. In Tbilisi we wandered the narrow lanes of the restored, balconied old town, under the watchful eye of the 17th-century Narikala Fortress. And yet our hotel was probably the hippest place I've ever stayed. The Stamba, opened in 2019 in a former 1930s Soviet printing works, is cool on an industrial scale. In a five-storey atrium beneath exposed-concrete pillars, the reception area is flanked by vast racks of vinyl records and books. Huge plants and trees bring the interior to life like a wild garden. Guests get enormous parquet-floored rooms with their own turntables, and old-school red push-button telephones. The café-bar has become a favourite with locals too.

There were also surprises at the other end of our trip, in the wine region of the east. Georgia claims to have invented wine production 8,000 years ago and here in the underground tunnel cellars of the Khareba winery



# ADV

we learnt about the Georgian method of burying grape juice and skins to ferment in large earthenware jars – *kvevri*. So Georgian white wines are often honey-coloured and they taste surprisingly light and fresh, as we found over tastings at Khareba and in the palace museum on the Tsinandali Estate. We stayed here at the Radisson Tsinandali, another spectacular hotel, with pools, wine cellars and gardens.

All very enjoyable, but those two luxurious places bookended a fortnight of something quite other. Between checking out of one and into the other, we crisscrossed the country with a guide, Koba, and driver, Zura, seeing the real Georgia. And it was on the road that the place really got under my skin.

From Tbilisi we drove 50 miles west to Uplistsikhe, a cave settlement dating back to the second millennium BC – Koba proudly pointed out



the pits that are evidence of winemaking here – before hopping on to Gori. This city is home to the modest single-storey wooden house where Stalin spent his first four years. Next door is the very peculiar Stalin Museum. Peculiar



Caucasus, left; horses in Mestia, above; khinkali, traditional dumplings, top; the Khareba winery; Stamba Hotel in the capital, Tbilisi, both below

Hiking in the





Cars share the roads with cows, swans, pigs, you name it

because for a country that is so keen to divorce itself from the former Soviet Union, this place focuses on the upwards trajectory of the man, from young revolutionary to communist statesman and Second World War victor. I noticed only one small cabinet acknowledging that there were victims of his regime. Easy to miss in the almost shrine-like atmosphere of the place (one room even showcases the dictator's death mask).

A two-and-a-half-hour drive took us further west to Kutaisi, one of the world's oldest inhabited cities and once the capital of Georgia. For somewhere so loaded with history it felt surprisingly cosmopolitan, with a state theatre and opera house.
Visible from all angles was
the impressive 11th-century
Bagrati Cathedral, with its
squat hilltop tower and
verdigris-coloured roof. And
just outside town we visited
the Gelati Monastery, a Unesco

world heritage site founded in the 12th century by the prosaically named King David the Builder. Inside it is anything but prosaic, with art in the Byzantine style – colourful murals, one depicting King David

himself, holding a church in his hand (the builder), as well as a huge mosaic of the Virgin Mary with the baby Jesus. Georgia's female King nar (always "King", never

Tamar (always "King", never "Queen") was crowned here in 1184, and we visited King David's tombstone, which Koba pointed out was in the gatehouse so that people would step on it. Christianity

is said to have arrived in Georgia in the early 4th century, via a female saint, Nino. We'd seen her image everywhere, recognisable from her "droopy" cross made of two grapevines bound together with strands of her hair; we'd spotted the original in Tbilisi's Sioni Cathedral.

We spent the night in Kutaisi before driving north to the mountains, reaching Mestia in the Caucasus that evening. At 1,500m it is a ski resort in winter, and the drive there was both spectacular and a little hairy. Cars in Georgia, especially rural Georgia, share the roads with cows, swans, pigs, horses, chickens, you name it. Even when we first arrived in Tbilisi in the small hours, I'd been struck by the sight of a dog lying in the middle of a main road – something apparently unremarkable to our driver. Now I was beginning to see why. Everyone rubs along happily, with no use of horns.

In some places in the mountains the cattle roamed the streets, to be gathered in at night. And everywhere were stray cats and dogs. The dogs (their yellow tags showing that they'd been vaccinated and neutered) would often accompany us for a while, friendly and tame, as if they had worked out that the best way to get food was to be nice to visitors and each other.

There was no industrial chic here but we didn't need it: hiking in the Caucasus was the highlight of our trip, thanks in no small part to the families we stayed with in small guesthouses along the way. These were basic but clean, and astonishingly had excellent wi-fi. At each stop we were fed heartily: fresh salads, cheese and dumplings, flatbreads stuffed with cheese (khachapuri) or meat (kubdari), and delicious fried pork with potatoes. It is more Asian than western cuisine and more western than Asian food, and tastes as healthy as any Mediterranean diet.

The hiking was spectacular, with breathtaking views all along. The mountains overlook you, imperiously, and are extraordinarily high. For one day we had the twin

peaks of Ushba for company and on another the snowy mass of Shkhara. The former is 4,737m, not far off the height of Mont Blanc (4,809m), the tallest Alp. The latter clocks in at 5,193m.

After a night in Ushguli village, at 2,100m the highest inhabited place in Europe, we walked to the foot of the Shkhara glacier (2,557m). This natural marvel, and the nearby Adishi glacier, which we had skirted earlier, are both melting fast. We sat for a long time mesmerised by the ice-cold water running off Shkhara, strangely soothed by the gushing sound of the meltwater becoming a stream.

I've read of the 19th-century Brits who pioneered Alpine climbing, and I felt as if I could now share that awe-inspiring exposure to nature in a landscape that is undeveloped and sparsely populated. But the Caucasus mountains are more barren than the Alps. Villages' multiple medieval defensive towers stand as a kind of metaphor for the resilience these communities must have had to make their homes here. And still have.

We were often the only people visible on the trails. When visiting other sites on our travels around the country we were almost always alone, in churches and monasteries that felt atmospheric and not like tourist attractions. They are in various states of repair, but many have wonderful murals dating as far back as the 11th century. Despite its age the artwork is colourful and decorative, characterised by a two-dimensional style distinct from western Renaissance equivalents. You will often spot St George slaying his dragon – he was adopted as patron saint by the Georgians, although there's no relationship between his name and that of the country. (The Georgian flag, however, features his red cross on white and would not look out of place at Wembley.)

It's astonishing to find these murals so well preserved, although perhaps that's another sign of the Georgians' enduring spirit. The people, generous to a fault, are reason enough to visit. At one point our driver said, "I'm sorry, we took a wrong turn," and we believed him, until he pulled up by the shore in Anaklia. He and Koba had heard us mention that we'd never seen the Black Sea. Now, after a spontaneous detour, here it was in all its glittery vastness.

So, if you like the sound of a warm welcome and some of the world's best scenery, food and wine, I suggest you get over to Georgia – before everyone wakes up to it.

Peter Howarth travelled independently with Steppes Travel, which has 12 nights' B&B on a private tour from £4,895pp (steppestravel.com). Fly to Tbilisi

# RAISETHE

# Never mind the puddles: rent a car-top tent, the UK's latest breed of adventure camping, says *Rachel Mills*



icture the most adventurous kind of camping – in the savannahs of Africa, perhaps, or the Australian bush – and you might envisage one of those nifty rooftop tents in which the most intrepid travellers hole up for the night, cocooned on a platform atop the roof of their 4x4, out of reach of prowling wild beasts and beastly weather.

The tents make sense in such a setting, but are a rarer sight in the campsites of our own less life-threatening land, where most of us make do with a thin piece of polyester stretched over flimsy poles.

This may change, however, with the launch of a rooftop tent by the sports and leisure store Decathlon, which is aiming to make self-led adventures more accessible to all.

To channel the vibe of an African adventure closer to home, I set out to test this new bit of kit at a campsite in Kent. Costing a penny under £1,000, the Roof Tent MH500 is relatively expensive (though comparable to a top-end tepee), but cheap compared with a camper van, and sits somewhere between the two in terms of functionality. The British brand TentBox is the UK market leader, but its cheapest model is £1,250.

Decathlon's tents are also available to rent from a few of its stores (£120 for three

days from Southampton, Poole, London Surrey Quays and Braehead, with more locations to come), with the benefit of some of the fiddly stuff coming already assembled and the lesser environmental impact of sharing.

To road – and campsite – test Decathlon's tent, I was heading to Fallow Fields Camping at Selson Farm in Eastry, a few miles inland from Sandwich on the Kent coast. But first my husband and I had to attach it to our (classic) car.

This wasn't simple. The skinny raised roof rails of our 1985 Mercedes W123 are a niche size, so I had to buy detachable roof bars (£139; atera.de) to beef up the weight-bearing load. But Decathlon





For once we had managed to pitch a tent without even a minor disagreement



The Kent countryside, where Rachel headed to try the Roof Tent MH500. Above, Rachel makes herself at home

advises users not to attach the roof tent directly to their vehicle's roof rails whatever the model, as there's a wide range in load capacity between vehicles.

We were just about able to carry the tent – which comes flat-packed on a heavy rigid aluminium platform – between the two of us. Hoiking it up onto the car roof was a different story, though – we had to engage the help of a couple of strapping delivery guys who were passing by. (A bounty of YouTube tutorials helped things along too.) We attached it with the Meccano-like screw kit without too much trouble, popped on the ladder and threaded on a waterproof cover, and we were ready to roll.

As I negotiated the dual carriageway,

As I negotiated the dual carriageway, the tent – folded into a neat boxy package on the roof – created only a hint of a whistle and made negligible difference to how the car handled, but I did take it gently on roundabouts.

I did take it gently on roundabouts. Pulling into our lovely campsite, where summer's long drought had made little impact on the grassy pitches and the help-yourself apples were ripe and tempting, we were designated a space in the orchard between the regular campers and small camper vans.

Unwrapping and unfurling took us only a few smug moments, and we were soon free to enjoy this slice of proper Kent countryside: big skies, green horizons and fruit trees. For once, this married couple had managed to pitch a tent without even a minor disagreement.

The speed of set-up meant that we could crack on with cooking dinner over our stove and kick back with a book and a bottle of wine by the campfire. The sky turned a beautiful stormy burnt orange as the sun set beyond the hedges and, had it rained, there was plenty of space to huddle beneath the cantilevered platform that stuck out from the side of the car.

Though we stuck to a regular campsite for our test, the tent would be brilliant for a music festival, camping in the wild or in wet weather, on rough or boggy ground, or indeed for a multi-stay trip in which you want to camp somewhere different every night without the hassle of constantly repacking and repitching.

At bedtime we locked our valuables in the car boot then shimmied up the stepladder into the cool, clutter-free and relatively large space of the blackout tent, sleeping under our own duvet on a delightful 5cm-thick built-in mattress. As nervous as we were about moving around on top of our sagging rails (my husband remained the stillest I've known him to be) we nodded off to the sound of the wind rustling in the leaves of the apple trees and slept very comfortably.

The best feature was being able to open the whole back "wall", to feel safe and cosy while enjoying the view – something that must feel even better when there are dangerous animals, not just excited toddlers, running around. But even on a bear and lion-free campsite not far from home, there was something extra adventurous about being in a rooftop tent. Maybe next time we'll venture to Scotland. Or Portugal. Or Namibia.

Rachel Mills's tent was provided by Decathlon, whose Quechua Roof Tent MH500 Fresh & Black costs just under £1,000 to buy or £120 for three days' rental (decathlon.co.uk). She was also a guest of Fallow Fields Camping, which has pitches from £11 per adult and £9 per child (fallowfieldscamping.com)

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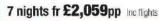


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If one country really defines the Silk Road it's turquoise-tiled Uzbekistan, a country at the heart of the fabled trading route.

esert citadels, ancient cities and colourful bazaars combine in Uzbekistan a country where Unesco-listed treasures can be found at every turn.

This trip will take you to the wonderful city of Samarkand with its dazzling array of architectural and cultural treasures. You'll explore Bukhara's stunning monuments, mosques and madrasahs that show off the best of Islamic architecture. There's also an opportunity to explore the bustling capital of Tashkent, as well as the city of Khiva and its beautifully preserved walled old town.

This itinerary, exclusively curated for Times Travel Signature Collection, also allows for time to experience traditional village life in the Nuratau Mountains, a chance

to tuck into the local cuisine - all in the company of expert guides.

Lonely Planet named Central Asia as "Best Region 2020" and with new visa-free access to Uzbekistan for British citizens, this is a great opportunity to see the best of the Silk Road cities condensed into 11 fascinating days.

Please note this itinerary is offered as a small group tour on selected departure dates, however you can also opt to make it a private tour. You will have your own guide and will be able to pick any date that suits you from an extra £400 per person, with options to tailor some elements to your taste - please call for details.

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# **Departures**

# **April to October 2023**

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thetimes.co.uk/uzbekistan

# Travel UK

# THE PORTHCAWL ELVIS FESTIVAL WALES

It's been a big year for Elvis Presley fans. First there was Baz Luhrmann's film in June, then the 45th anniversary of the King's death last month, and now, in a small town in south Wales, the annual Elvis Festival is hip-swivelling into action. Next weekend Porthcawl welcomes visitors in their thousands, all flares, wigs and blow-up guitars, as the town's 1930s dancehall lays on Elvis-themed shows, including the Elvies, the impersonator awards.

Details September 23 to 25; from £8.50 (elvies.co.uk)

### **THE TAR BARRELS OF OTTERY ST MARY** DEVON

On Bonfire Night the streets of the ordinarily sleepy town of Ottery St Mary will be overrun with burly blokes brandishing flaming barrels on their backs. The centuries-old festival is linked to Guy Fawkes and the Spanish Armada – tar barrels were set aflame to warn of invading forces. Beside the



pyrotechnics, expect streetfood vendors, a giant bonfire and a funfair.

Details November 5; free (tarbarrels.co.uk)

### WHITTLESEA STRAW BEAR FESTIVA **CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

This festival pays homage to the area's 19th-century plough boys who, having not been paid over Christmas, would dress and dance in straw as part of an entertaining - and occasionally intimidating – attempt to part the local



townsfolk with their pennies. The party starts on the Friday after Plough Monday (the first Monday after Epiphany on January 6) with a concert, followed by a pub crawl on the Saturday and, finally, a burning of the straw costumes come Sunday.

Details January 13 to 15, 2023; free (strawbear.org.uk)

### **OBBY OSS FESTIVAL** CORNWALL

They might be known as folksy hobby horses, but Padstow's rival Osses - one topped with blue ribbon and one with red – appear more

like a nightmarish apparition. Lacquered black with grinning masks, they're the main characters of one of the UK's oldest surviving festivals, which is thought to have roots in the Celtic celebration of Beltane, the sun god who made crops grow. The event ends in the late evening, when the Osses meet at the maypole. **Details** May 1, 2023; free (padstowobbyoss.

### **UP HELLY AA SHETLAND**

wordpress.com)

While researchers debate how much Norse DNA remains in

21st-century Shetlanders, one Viking tradition is very much alive and flickering in the Scottish archipelago. On the last Tuesday of January, Lerwick – its only town – is taken over by torch-wielding locals clad in Viking attire. led by a "chief" and his prized "squad". The procession follows a life-size longboat, which is ultimately torched as the crowd sings The Norseman's Home. The squads take to various locations to perform skits and shows.

Details January 31, 2023; free (uphellyaa.org)

Kettlewell scarecrows: below left, an Elvis fan in Porthcawl

# **COOPER'S HILL CHEESE** GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Each year people from far and wide come to chase a 9lb wheel of double Gloucester 200 yards down a hill. It may sound bonkers, but cheese rolling is one of the oldest customs in Britain. The wheel gets a one-second head start and, while competitors appear to be chasing it, it's impossible to catch, reaching speeds of up to 70mph. The first person to reach the bottom takes the glory. **Details** May 29, 2023; free (visitgloucester.co.uk)

### **KETTLEWELL SCARECROW FESTIVAL YORKSHIRE**

This annual event started in 1994 as a fundraising drive for the village primary school, and now attracts upward of 15,000 visitors, who come to be caught off-guard by quirky scarecrows and revel in Kettlewell's wholesome community spirit. Previous depictions have included royalty and Freddie Mercurv. **Details** August 12 to 20, 2023; £1 for a trail map (kettlewell scarecrowfestival.co.uk) **Hannah Ralph** 



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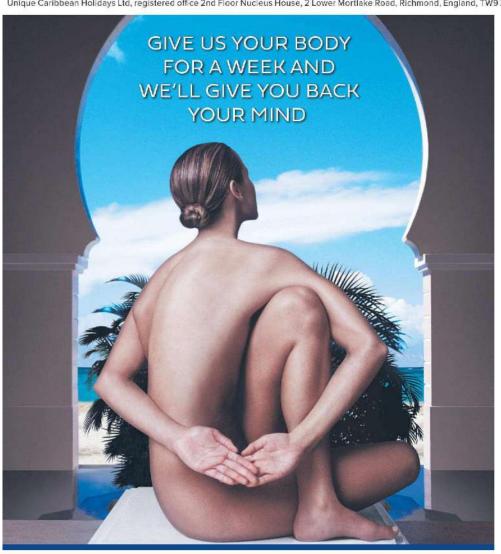
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his tour is the perfect introduction to Vietnam, with cultural activities and plenty of opportunities to interact with the locals. Learn more about the Vietnam War in and around Saigon, and explore Hue for a glimpse of a magnificent imperial past. Hoi An will charm you with its cobble streets and scenic riverside setting, whilst capital city Hanoi boasts timeless streets full of

local life, charming colonial architecture including an extra hotel night with and a fascinating history to discover. The tour finishes as it started, with a showstopper - Halong Bay, where you'll take an overnight cruise out onto the calm waters and wend your way through the breathtaking karst scenery.

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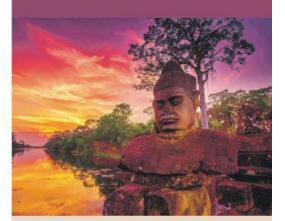


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# MYHOLS ANDREA BOCELLI

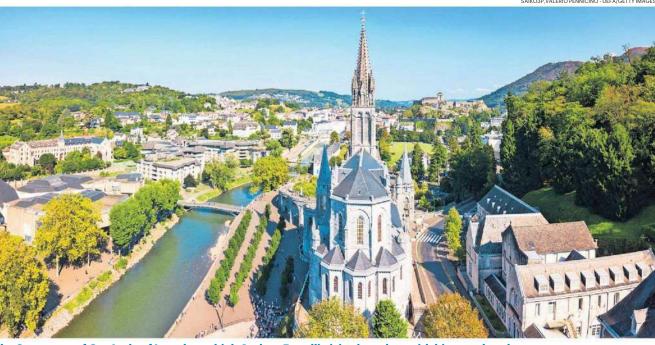
The singer grew up in rural
Tuscany, loves trains and had an
epiphany on a visit to Lourdes

All my earliest memories are related to the sea. My grandmother and I would travel to Tuscany's west coast, to the small town where my uncle lived and to Versilia, just up the coast from where I live today. It was around here that I had my first experience of the water, igniting a passion in me for this place of complete freedom. My father owned a dinghy and would send my brother and me on trips.

During these same holidays, my uncle persuaded me to enter a singing competition organised by the Gran Caffè Margherita in the city of Viareggio. I received my first ovation after singing O Campagnola Bella and 'O Sole Mio and ending up winning.

Our family farm took up so much time that my parents hardly had a chance to travel, yet my mother always told me that as they worked with so much pleasure and love, every day was a kind of holiday. They had a deep respect for Tuscany's countryside.

My father unfortunately passed away more than 20 years ago, but I am pleased that my mother was able to travel more in her later years, sometimes



The Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes, which Andrea Bocelli visited as a boy with his grandmothe

accompanying me on tours. It was a source of great pride for me: to give my mother the chance to experience the things that had eluded her when she was young.

As a young boy I found train travel so exciting, and one day my grandmother, a very religious woman, announced that

she and I were visiting Lourdes. It was a sort of pilgrimage, she said, and indeed it proved to be an intense experience – the sanctuary felt like an emotional temple; a consolidation of body and soul. The

Virgin Mary has been a constant presence in my life since then.

As you can imagine, music is

an important part of any journey for me and I'm an omnivorous listener. In America the term "classical music" is ambiguous because it also encompasses popular songs with elements of jazz and pop. That isn't a problem for me – every type of music has its own depth and strength. The beauty is how it overcomes barriers and generates shared passions.

By nature I feel most comfortable in my own house, so being on tour and moving from hotel to hotel requires a lot of preparation. It is not always easy to live from a suitcase. For practical reasons I usually stay with large chains because they offer similar high standards and provisions. Sometimes I treat myself by staying in a quality hotel such as the Ritz-Carlton New York or the Dorchester in London. Then I can be certain that the bed will be comfortable – sleep is important when my voice needs to recover after a show – and that the food will amaze me.

I have developed an appreciation of Asian cuisine, but I also love those genuine, dependable flavours that bring me back to rustic traditions: pecorino cheese, a pasta with oil or tomato sauce, local bread, homemade sausages, vegetables from the garden. Food, like music, tells so much about a place and its people.

I have been lucky enough to take the stage all over the world, so it's difficult for me to pick a favourite place. To perform in Paris is a joy; to be on the other side of the world in Sydney; to sing *Nessun Dorma* in Beijing.

Wherever I am, the music speaks to my heart. Yet my heart is also Italian, so I'm especially filled with happiness when I perform at the Verona Arena, the Regio di Parma theatre, the Colosseum in Rome or the Teatro di San Carlo in Naples. For the past 17 years I have had the pleasure of holding an outdoor summer concert in my home town, Lajatico, in a space called the Teatro del Silenzio.

No matter how many miles I fly, I will always return to the Tuscan hills. Yes, I am a

man of the world, but home is the place that made that man.



# **Interview by Danny Scott**

Andrea Bocelli, 63, is one of the bestselling singers of all time. Born with a visual impairment, he went blind aged 12. The UK leg of his latest world tour, Believe, begins today (myticket.co.uk). He lives in Tuscany with his second wife, Veronica, and their daughter, Virginia

# **COMPETITION**

WIN A LUXURY BREAK FOR TWO IN TURKEY AT SUSONA BODRUM

# WHERE WAS I?

"Don't... don't you want me to come with you?" asks Friend, tremulously.

I do, but he is pulling that silent-disappointment face of his, and this outing is the cause. For years, the hills hereabouts have been alive with the sound of education and cultural enterprise — as well as industry — and I'm planning to go on an architectural tour.

"How?" Friend asks.
"We have no car."

"As easy as ABC," I tell him, handing him his bus pass.

But first, a quick walk. About 260 yards southwest of the train station I pay my respects at a nightlife hub, opened in a mill in 1980.

Meanwhile, Friend moans about his feet. Then he complains about the seats on the No 120 bus, which we ride to a neoclassical school, opened in 1838. To distract him, I lend him my novel. He hands it back on the

He hands it back on the next bus (the No 51), claiming

that it's worthless pulp. I offer him a butty instead. "Don't be so common. People shouldn't eat on buses," he sniffs

But even he warms to the tall, slender 1960s university block that we visit next. He also likes the city's town hall, nearly a mile east-southeast of it. So we take the No 56 bus to a housing estate, opened 61 years ago on a hill half a mile east of it. "It has a certain romance," I suggest.

Friend shivers, and claims the wind is blowing from the Arctic. "Monkeys made of brass wouldn't survive this," he says, his eyes fixed on me. It's not a look of love.

"Maybe that's enough architecture for now," I sigh. "Music to my ears," he

says, and calls a cab.

Sean Newsom

# THE QUESTIONS

1 What is the name of the nightlife hub? 2 What is the name of the housing estate?



# THE PRIZE

The winner and guest will stay for three nights, B&B, at Susona Bodrum, LXR Hotels & Resorts, a five-star boutique hotel with a spectacular seafront setting on Turkey's Aegean coast. Most of its 70 rooms, villas and suites have their own private pools and gardens, while the hotel's

infinity pool, beach club and spa await when guests are ready to explore. There are two restaurants: Ezi offers relaxed poolside dining with a mix of Turkish and international favourites; Malva specialises in candlelit cocktails and slow-cooked dinners. Seafront yoga, private barbecues and proper Turkish baths are

among the experiences on offer. For details visit lxrhotels3.hilton.com.

Also included in the prize are return flights to Bodrum, to a total value of £750, and transfers to the hotel.

It must be taken in April, May or June 2023, or between September 15 and 20, 2023, subject to availability and excluding holidays. Flights must be booked at least three months before the date of travel.

# **HOW TO ENTER**

Only one entry per person, at thesundaytimes.co.uk/wherewasi by Wednesday. Normal Times Newspapers rules apply. No correspondence will be entered into.

# LAST WEEK'S PRIZE

The answers are Dream and Vulcan Foundry. Steve Davey of London wins a luxury break for two at Chewton Glen hotel and

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you'll be making use of this prime location on the official Northern Lights Route to seek out Mother Nature's greatest wonder: the aurora borealis.

The second half of your week will be spent in the spectacular Northern Lights Village in Levi. This stylish new resort offers the opportunity to sleep in a glass-roofedAurora Cabin for the

duration of your stay so you can search the Arctic skies for a northern lights display from the comfort of your bed.



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# Moral money: ESG v impact investing There are growing doubts about the transparency and financial performance of ESG-rated investments. Could impact investing be a better bet?

**Daniel Thomas** 

social and governance (ESG) investments should be viewed as a remarkable success. But amid the excitement, critics have cast doubts on the transparency and measurability of ESG, warning that some listed businesses may be abusing the label.

Investors and consumers alike want businesses to do more about issues such as climate change, diversity and human rights abuses. The corporate world is responding. According to Bloomberg, money held in sustainable mutual funds and ESG-focused exchange-traded funds rose globally to \$2.7tn (£2.35tn) last year - up by 53%.

But concerns remain. For example, the ratings agencies that grade ESG performance tend to focus on a firm's efforts to offset harms and risks linked to sustainability, rather than its actual products and services. This explains why electric carmaker Tesla was excluded in May from a list of the most socially responsible companies in America - the S&P 500 ESG index - while the likes of Amazon and oil and gas giant ExxonMobil remained in place.

Ratings agencies also rely on ESG data provided by companies themselves to make their assessments, making it harder to avoid so-called greenwashing. Researchers at Columbia University and the London School of Economics recently compared the ESG records of US companies in 147 ESG fund portfolios with those in 2,428 non-ESG portfolios and found the former group had worse compliance records when it came to labour and environmental rules.

Even the financial performance of ESG investments is now being called into question - this at a time when rising inflation and interest rates are rattling markets. Some investors are seeking alternative ways to invest ethically.

One increasingly popular choice is impact investing. Unlike an ESG invest-

he rapid rise of environmental, | ment, where financial returns and risks | take priority, impact investments first and foremost aim to produce a tangible and measurable social good. That could mean backing companies that are helping to roll out clean energy, sustainable agriculture or microfinance, or public services such as

> "Impact investing means focusing your investments on companies and activities deemed to be actively solving the world's problems," says Becky O'Connor, head of

Focusing on impact

and disappointments

labels, which are far

less prescribed

far less prescribed."

is a neat way of avoiding

that can ensue from ESG

pensions and savings at the investment

platform Interactive Investor and author

of The ESG Investing Handbook. "Focusing

on impact is a neat way of avoiding some of

the contradictions and disappointments

that can ensue from ESG labels, which are

Network (GIIN), a US non-profit advocacy

group, impact investing offers an effective

alternative to philanthropy and can be

deployed in both emerging and developed

According to the Global Impact Investing

some of the contradictions

an investor's goals. According to a 2020 survey, GIIN found 67% of respondents were targeting risk-adjusted market-rate returns, 18% were content with below market-rate returns, and 15% expected some healthcare and education. thing closer to capital preservation. Yet the market, while growing, remains

small. At the end of 2019, GIIN estimated that around 1,720 organisations globally had about \$715bn of impact-type investments under management.

markets. Investments are expected to make

a return, but these will vary depending on

This may change as big players dip their toes into the impact market. In 2020, the global asset manager Schroders partnered with Big Society Capital, one of the UK's leading impact investors, to launch the Schroder BSC Social Impact Trust. This London-listed fund invests in firms tackling "pressing social problems" and aims to achieve a sustainable return.

"We are targeting the deepest level of impact and find organisations who use all their resources to contribute to solutions to social challenges such as homelessness, mental health, unemployment and fuel poverty," says Andrew Beal, managing director of investor engagement at Big Society Capital. About two-thirds of the trust's investments are linked to inflation, equivalent to CPI plus 2% once it is fully invested over three to five years. "The trust's investments are largely uncorrelated to mainstream markets, so we would expect the portfolio to show resilience in times of market volatility," Beale adds.

Another well-known impact investor is Nesta Group, which was set up by the government but now operates as an independent charity. It targets private equity-style investments, in areas such as ed tech, food tech and climate tech, investing both from its endowment and on behalf of private investors.

Lisa Barclay, its executive director of investments, says a wave of impact funds have launched over the past few years, thanks in part to the "mainstreaming of ESG". But while impact isn't higher risk than other asset classes, she says, it does he says, and it is targeting returns come with "a different sort of risk" and won't be for everyone.

> "We do expect impact investment to grow, but it will likely remain a relatively niche investment strategy."

> In truth, the market's challenges are many. Impact investors are under greater pressure to report and measure the social and environmental performance of their investments, which can be complex. Some complain of a lack of suitable exit options for impact investments, a shared definition of what constitutes an impact investment, relevant professionals with the right skills to manage these assets, and research on market trends, practices and performance.

> "The pool of investments that match true impact criteria is of course narrower [than ESG] - so this can mean it is harder to diversify, which is one of the golden rules of investing," O'Connor says, "However, if you are committed to planetary betterment and you want all of your money to be too, this may be a risk you are willing to take."

Glen Yelton is head of ESG client strategy for North America and EMEA at the fund manager Invesco. He agrees that impact strategies are "only truly actionable in a limited number of asset classes and markets", even if impact investing often has a "clarity to it" that other categories of ESG investing may lack.

Eoin Murray, head of investment at the fund Federated Hermes, says that no one form of sustainable investing is better than the other; it very much depends on what clients want to achieve.

"Impact can be made through engagement and investing in companies that are capable of additional transformation,

whereas integrating ESG will be sufficient for others and is equally capable of playing a role in the necessary transition."

He accepts that ESG as a concept is facing a backlash as firms jump on the bandwagon, but thinks there will be a shakeout that leaves the industry "in a far better place".

Every type of ethical investment strategy comes with trade-offs and professionals must be honest about this. But experts warn that a lack of clarity over terms and labels in the industry can lead to disappointment.

City regulator the Financial Conduct Authority is looking into sustainable fund labelling and will publish a consultation paper in September. It hopes to categorise funds and make more explicit options available to investors, including impact. Until then, those who wish to put their money to work responsibly would be wise to do their own research thoroughly.

of investors are targeting risk-adjusted market-rate returns on their impact investments

of investors cite impact washing as the main challenge for the industry - this is by far the biggest concern among investors



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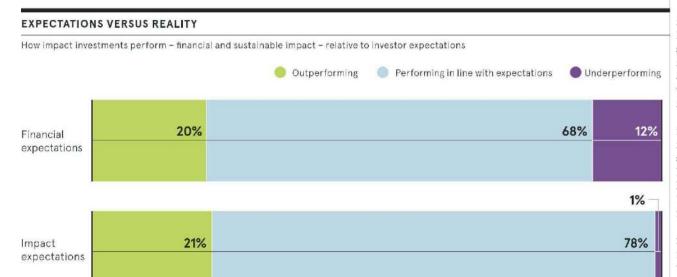
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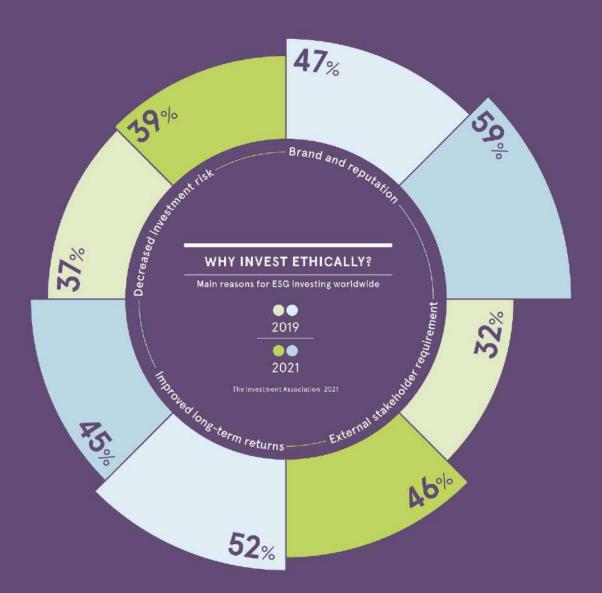




Think Bigger. **Bloomberg** 

# MOTIVATIONS, OBSTACLES AND STRATEGY

Different investors have different reasons for investing ethically. For some it's about actively helping to make a better world, while others are beholden to their stakeholders. Whatever their motivations, ESG investors are facing regulatory complexities, staff shortages, fears of greenwashing and general economic uncertainty. So how are investors minding the risks while maintaining the rewards?





MOST COMMON ESG STRATEGY OR METHOD OF INVESTING Institutional investors worldwide Sustainable funds worldwide Corporate investors - Americas/Europe ESG Exclusionary\_ Thematic Active Impact \_Best-in-class\_ We do not integration screening investing selection investing implement ESG No data No data 40% No data No data 28% 23% 46% 35% 18% 28% 43% 34% **%9** 10% 40% 42% 11% 15%

# Reframing ESG: empowering investment decision-making

With climate change affecting every industry and business, investment decisions must now consider ESG commitments, actions and activities. How can data and insights ensure investors make successful decisions?

the New Climate Economy, transitioning to net zero is set to deliver up to \$26tn in investment and job creation opportunities by 2030. But unless investors are using a reliable platform to help them sift through rhetoric and company promises, they are left without a holistic picture to correctly assess opportunities.

For instance, take a cement company that naturally has high carbon emissions. To reduce emissions, this company then launches a project to offset carbon emissions and issues a sustainability-linked bond to finance this project. As a result, this company looks on track to meet both its targets and government legislation and investing in this company's stock or in this bond suddenly looks pretty favourable to an investment firm

Good investment, right? Not necessarily, says Patricia Torres, global head of sustainable finance solutions at Bloomberg LP.

"When Bloomberg calculates a carbon intensity score for this company to help investors compare it with peers, we don't take into account this carbon offset," she says. "We base our scores on how much companies actually emit, so cement companies that emit less compare better to others. Also, investment firms in the EU, or who market their funds in the EU, need to report to clients how much of their portfolio aligns with the EU's taxonomy of sustainable activities, which provides clear defini-

tions for which activities are sustainable." Bloomberg's ESG investing capabilities and data platform can place a company's sustainability plans in a wider, global context showing investors how much of the company's activities will meet wider policy, in the case of the cement company, the EU taxonomy. Torres says: "In this example, for this company to pass the test the carbon intensity per tonne of cement it produces needs to be lower

ccording to a recent report by | allows offsets to be counted under some conditions. This shows why investors need solutions that provide them with a holistic picture."

> Bloomberg can help investors uncover unexpected findings and investment opportunities as well as shine a light on poor investments. The provider recently launched a government climate scores screen that helps investors understand not only the emissions outlook for a country, but also how well it is doing compared to other countries in terms of carbon transition, power sector transition and climate policies.

> "Interestingly, China, which represents 35% of global CO2 emissions, has a relatively low score compared to other heavy emitters like the United States," says Torres. "Investors can easily find out how different countries are transitioning, and that China is a leader in the development of solar and wind power capacity."

She adds that data rom the company's BloombergNEF (BNEF) analysts shows that China accounted for 53% of global investments in renewable energy in the first half of 2022. "This impact can be seen now in the Shanghai Shenzhen CSI 300 Index, which has 15 companies in the renewable energy sector today, versus seven last year."

While evidence indicates that climate change is real, ESG investors everywhere suffer from a lack of quality data to do anything about it, missing anything from how much greenhouse gas corporates emit to how they will be affected by physical risks caused by extreme weather conditions, or transition risks such as government schemes to support green energy production, or innovation in the clean tech space.

"As we say at Bloomberg, 'You can't manage what you can't measure," says Torres.

ESG assets under management are anticipated to reach \$50tn by 2025, says Bloomberg Intelligence, as corporates

# ESG INVESTMENTS ARE INCREASING, BUT NEED TO RISE FURTHER



climate change in their 2021 CSR reports, up from 27% in 2020

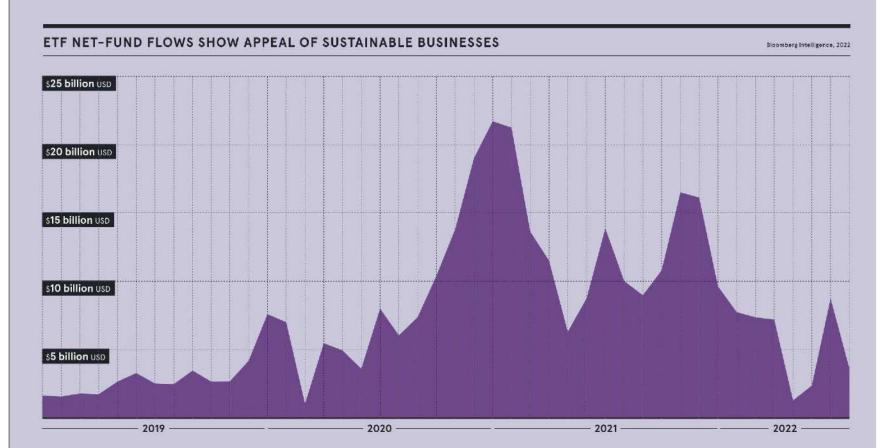
in the energy transition sector

verage investment required between 2026 and 2030 to ensure global business is on track to reach net zero by 2050

BloombergNEF, 2022

BloombergNEF, 2022

BloombergNEF, 2022



# RUSSELL 1,000 COMPANIES COMMITTED TO ESG SWAY INVESTORS % companies w/ Bloomberg environmental disclosure score >20 % companies w/ disclosed climate change policy

weather impacts such as rising sea levels, heatwaves and droughts, or mitigate those risks by shifting their production to satisfy government regulation, especially with the Paris agreement attempting to halve global emissions by 2030 and limit understand a company's global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by end of the century

However, according to Harvard Business Review, 70% of corporations are not even confident in the ESG data they disclose. With that in mind, Bloomberg is taking action by driving industry collaboration through the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures and the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero. This will provide comparable data from companies to assess how they will be affected by physical and transition risks

Torres says: "Our data solutions help investors understand a company's carbon footprint and compare it to peers based

We help investors carbon footprint and compare it to peers based on a range of different ESG criteria

also assess if it is on track to reach its climate targets and its exposure to climate risks. Bloomberg also provides tools to help investors assess their investments and reporting obligations in line with susthan 0.469 tCO2e. The taxonomy also seek to adapt to severe climate-related on a range of different ESG criteria and tainable finance regulations, which are no

longer box ticking exercises, but require investors to shift their investment strategies and decision-making."

This ESG data is also reviewed to Bloomberg's editorial standards making sure it is fully transparent - investors simply need to click to get to the source document of the data - and has real breadth, ensuring each profile covers 80% of operations or employees. Beyond climate change data, Bloomberg is also working to help investors understand wider environmental and social impacts of companies, e.g. on water and biodiversity, or on their diversity, equity and inclusion practices and interactions with the communities in which they operate.

"We also provide ESG indices that fund managers use to benchmark their portfolios or launch ETFs," says Torres. "Many fund managers, mainly in Europe and the UK, shifted their investments to Parisaligned benchmarks, which are based on

methodologies aligned with EU benchmark regulation. It's important to be rigorous when selecting a benchmark, to make sure it is based on credible data. uses rigorous methodologies, and a clear, well-defined process for how companies are included or excluded."

Understanding the rapidly changing climate and its impact on companies and their long-term outlooks, investors will need to turn to reliable sources of data and analysis in order to make educated decisions around investments

Take big steps forward in sustainable finance, not big risks. Learn more at bloomberg.com/explore/esg

# **Bloomberg**

# How can investors assess climate risk?

In a recent Bloomberg survey, 85% of executives said they have started assessing climate risk but taking positions can seem as much fortune telling as data modelling. **Edo Schets**, product manager for climate finance solutions at Bloomberg LP discusses how investors can assess risk when it comes to ESG



# Why is climate risk so difficult

Climate-related risks are more difficult to measure than 'traditional' financial risks because, rather than looking at historical patterns as is customary in risk management, climate change looks forward. Furthermore, as climate change is a process, not a single event, its impacts evolve and may be very different in the next five to 10 years compared to the next 20 to 30 years.

In 2020, the Australia bushfires are estimated to have cost \$5bn and wildfires on the US' west coast led to damages of \$20bn. Floods in Pakistan led to \$1.5bn that year, and we are seeing a similar situation in Pakistan today. Climate scientists have shown that, in the best-case scenario, global warming causes rises of 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2100, and physical risks will be bigger than today. So, investors are rightly concerned, but how to manage this risk is very much the issue they are trying to solve for now.

### How can investors assess climate change as a financial risk?

Broadly, climate risk can be divided into two interrelated risks: physical risk to assets from flooding and storms, and risk associated with transitioning to a low carbon economy, for example if fossil fuel reserves need to be written off.

Firms with large loan or mortgage portfolios should ask themselves how they will be affected when rising sea levels. droughts, and other adverse conditions

become the new normal. Firms with exposures to heavy emitters should evaluate their positions if more stringent regulation comes into force

From there, there are at least three challenges. The first is to find the right data as climate change is not well reflected in historical data. We therefore rely on scenarios and climate models to understand the risks we are exposed to going forward. The second challenge is, while many areas will be exposed to more severe weather such as extreme heat or rainfall, it is difficult to estimate how these unprecedented events will impact financial valuations. The third challenge is, even if you have the data and models to estimate what could happen, it is hard to know what to do with this information given the huge uncertainties around which future is most likely.

### What does the future hold for those assessing climate risk?

Will the future be one where we successfully transition to a low carbon economy - with high transition risk but low physical risk as a result - or will we fail to take sufficient action and face much more severe physical risks? We are working on a solution that looks at all possible futures and provides risk estimates based on the probabilities of all the various outcomes.

However, companies often do not disclose complete data on how they are exposed to climate risk, and when they do. the provision of this data is voluntary and unaudited, and not always reliable. But as new disclosure rules take effect notably with the help of the framework developed by the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, the quality, consistency and availability of data will improve.



Climate-related risks are more difficult to measure than 'traditional' financial risks because, rather than looking at historical patterns as is customary in risk management, climate change looks forward

### How will government strategies on climate change impact investors over the next two to five years?

Firms have a variety of reasons for considering climate risk, and regulations are an important piece of the puzzle. Momentum to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is building, with numerous UN initiatives and the creation of the 450-firm Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero. Governments and regulators are increasingly asking financial firms climate questions. The survey we conducted recently showed that regulation and disclosure requirements came in first for 25% of respondents. The Bank of England also asked banks and insurers to evaluate how holdings could evolve if countries limited emissions in line with the Paris agreement, or if intervention is limited and economies instead face physical risk from extreme weather.

INTERVIEW

# Ahead of COP27, a growing role for private investors

With climate talks looming, private investors are in the spotlight. They could make a huge contribution, says Clare Shine, director and CEO of the Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership



Oliver Balch

Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt for the UN's latest round of global talks. Such summits are nothing new, but the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) is unique in one regard - the number of private investors set to attend.

Global finance has moved from the sidelines to the centre of climate discussions, a trend that will be on display at the meeting in November. But just how important is the private sector in beating the climate emergency? For Clare Shine, director and CEO of the Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership, its role is huge,

Take Africa. For the continent's 54 nations to meet their climate transition

We're not just talking about global public goods here. We're talking about human survival

eads of state will soon gather in | plans, an extra \$1.29tn (about £1.12tn) will need to be found between now and 2030. But public funders simply do not have pockets deep enough for this, says Shine, who describes the recent emergence of investor-led alliances around climate action as "nothing but positive".

As an example of "important progress", Shine points to the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ). Launched ahead of last year's climate summit in Scotland. the GFANZ coalition represents more than 450 financial firms with more than \$130tn in assets - enough to make government budgets look like petty cash.

But the climate clock is ticking. As Shine observes: "A lot of people are saying, 'Show us the progress on delivering that funding [and] how it is actually feeding through into concrete investments.3

The danger, of course, is that the investor presence is branded as greenwashing. Levels of trust at global climate talks, especially between the industrialised North and the developing South, are fragile at the best of times. Add to this the "growing trend for litigation" among climate activists and investor participation could easily backfire, Shine says.

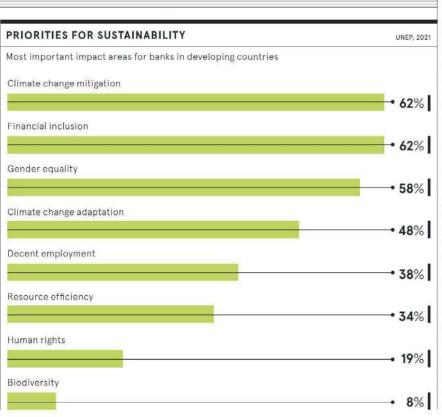
Shine's advice is twofold. First, get delivering. That's easier said than done, she admits. Climate mitigation and adaptation projects are frequently small in scale and high in risk, two attributes that complicate matters for institutional investors. Added to this, many such projects will necessarily be found in climate-hit regions in developing countries, and the list of hurdles grows.

"You have high up-front costs, many technical challenges, unproven business models, poor data, currency fluctuation, unpredictable business environments and potential for political upheaval, to name just a few," Shine notes.

That said, none are beyond the wit of policymakers to fix, she insists. Investment guarantees, credit-risk enhancements, and commitments by public funders to cover 'first losses' are just some of the mechanisms available to assuage investors' fears.

Early precedents are already emerging. Shine points to the Green Guarantee Company. Another product of last year's COP, this government-backed finance firm acts as a guarantor for climate bonds issued in global capital markets.

An even simpler step is to encourage knowledge sharing. Multilateral lenders



like the World Bank have been in the carbon finance game long enough to know how best to structure carbon deals, as well as the loss ratios to expect. These are "typically lower than expected", Shine notes.

In the spirit of "radical transparency", Shine calls on public funders to open their books and help private investors navigate a new and often daunting marketplace.

What sounds easy in principle, though, may prove harder in practice. Trust is in short supply. Public finance institutions exist primarily to promote development, not financial returns. Little wonder, then, that the prospect of for-profit investors 'muscling in' on climate finance makes some feel queasy.

Shine gets this. A qualified barrister, she has worked in and around the development field for three decades. For this reason. when she says that the public financiers are growing more open to working with their private-sector peers, it carries weight.

"Some multilateral development banks are beginning to ask themselves some tough questions about their responsibility and their role for accelerating transformation."

In this role they will not be funders of climate action, as in the past, but mobilisers of private capital, argues Shine. She is keen not to be misunderstood: this isn't about public investors stepping back. Rather, it's about creating a new kind of investment ecosystem grounded in public-private cooperation.

Again, she has been in the development game long enough to know that talk of a public-private partnership often covers "a multitude of sins". Nonetheless, without welcoming private investors into the climate tent, any hope of achieving a climate-stable future is effectively dead.

Such a prospect is unconscionable, Shine insists. "We're not just talking about global public goods here. We're talking about human survival. And that means thinking about scale, reach and longevity of future climate efforts. No one institution, no one government, no one region can do this alone."

So what's the ideal message for private investors in Sharm el-Sheikh? Demonstrate some deliverables. That starts with hard figures on capital deployment, but it doesn't end there. External observers will also be on the lookout for credible long-term investment strategies and governance measures.

Second, investors should listen and learn. Obvious as it sounds, Freetown is not Frankfurt, says Shine. Seize the opportunity of a climate summit in Africa to discern which investment approaches translate across borders, and which do not.

"One thing that excites me about COP27 being in Egypt is the chance it gives us to learn from each other, especially in terms of seeing how people are thinking through a net-zero transition in a region where climate change is really biting.

Finally, make clear that a climate-secure future is "doable". Investors, like every other segment of society, have a "duty of hope", says Shine. Where they differ is having the money to turn hope into action. .

Commercial feature

# Helping build a sustainable future for the UK Sustainability is central to our mission to create value That's why we're backing the industries, infrastructure and innovations helping to drive a stronger, more sustainable future. Investing in the future of the UK Find out more:

# How ESG is shaping the economy of tomorrow

Environmental sustainability is changing how people invest and transforming the business landscape, says Jean Rogers, global head of ESG at Blackstone



increasingly important part of how organisations deliver value to their customers and shareholders. We believe companies that consider it will ultimately be more resilient and therefore have a competitive edge. The investment landscape looks totally different than it did in previous decades. More capital has been flowing into the ESG space, particularly into energy transition. To reach net zero by 2050, experts estimate that it will take \$3.5 trillion in investments - every year. Investors can and want to play their part.

How are you helping to drive environmental sustainability at Blackstone?

Since it first began operating in Europe 25 years ago, Blackstone has invested over \$100 billion to back the companies and industries powering the future.

Across our businesses, we see an opportunity to invest an estimated \$100 billion in energy transition and climate change solutions over the next decade, building on the approximately \$16 billion we've committed to investments we believe are consistent with the broader energy transition since 2019. Several of our platforms enable this investment, including funds within Blackstone Energy Partners, which focus on climate solutions and energy transition in private equity. We do this in two ways: by investing in environmental services companies and by helping companies implement environmental improvements. DESOTEC is an environmental services company that helps industrial companies

clean the air, water and soil around their sites through its fleet of 2,700 mobile filters. Last year, this fleet contributed to the reduction of 110,000 tonnes of CO2equivalent emissions

We have also invested in the NEC Group, a leading live events business, whose Birmingham campus will deliver one of the largest electric vehicle (EV) charging hubs in Europe, capable of charging 32 EVs at a time in just 15 to 30 minutes.

### How can investors work with companies within their portfolio to make them more sustainable?

Some investors leverage existing greenhouse gas footprints to inform their investment decisions, choosing to divest from the highest-emitting companies and assets. Others have set their sights on 2050 and committed to a net-zero portfolio over the course of the next several decades. Both approaches, however, disregard the need for urgent, deep decarbonization during the time of ownership. We believe this can help put companies on a trajectory to make their portfolio more sustainable for the long-term and achieve

We focus on what we call the carbon delta or the carbon emissions that we can abate during our holding period.

At Blackstone, we have quantified our work on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Delta by setting a numeric target focused on actionable improvement over the short term. We have committed to a goal of reducing carbon emissions by 15% in aggregate for all new investments where we control the energy use over the first three years of ownership - a commitment that is informed by

climate science and focuses on near-term

urgent reductions. To measure progress reducing GHG emissions, it is important for investors to have a robust, measured GHG footprint of their holdings. We are investing significant resources in getting this right at Blackstone. Our portfolio includes approximately 12,000 real estate assets and over 250 portfolio companies. A rigorous carbon accounting program is central to understanding our portfolio's GHG footprint. Our program will allow us to measure progress while also providing our investors with the data they need to measure progress against their climate commitments.

### What is the future of sustainability in business and investing?

Meaningful, measurable interventions that are material to a company's core business model - not just an add-on or niceto-have - are needed to position a portfolio for the changes of the coming decades and deliver lasting value to investors. We believe that to make a company more sustainable is to make it more resilient and thus competitive. We're excited about the trajectory Blackstone is on and confident that we have the programs and people today that will help the companies in our portfolio build for tomorrow.

For more information, visit blackstone.com/investuk







# Can technology measure the 'S' in ESG?

A growing number of companies use technology to measure social value. But how accurate and comprehensive is this reporting?

Simon Brooke

SG investors, fund managers and companies are increasingly aware the need for hard metrics. This is a particular challenge for the 'S' in the acronym.

It is becoming easier to verify a company's environmental impact and to a lesser extent, to help communities thrive. And the way its governance. But assessing and benchmarking its social impact is much harder.

According to ratings agency Moody's, social considerations were the most frequently cited ESG issue during last year, driven by the Covid pandemic. But how can investors get a proper sense of whether a company's supply chains are free of sweatshops and modern slavery contraventions, for example?

Over the past few years, a growing number of companies and platforms have sprung up that aim to address the issue by providing clear, comprehensive and accurate metrics on social value. RepRisk and FactSet are among those that use algorithms, artificial intelligence (AI), social media sentiment, natural language processing (NLP) and data to measure social value and impact for the benefit of ESG investors, while helping companies manage their risk in this area. Technologies such as blockchain can provide more detailed, accurate and timely information about supply chains.

RepRisk, for instance, leverages a combination of AI and machine learning with human intelligence to systematically analyse the publicly available information of more than 200,000 public and private companies and more than 55,000 infrastructure projects in 23 languages.

"Essentially, RepRisk serves as a reality check for how companies conduct their

business around the world - do they walk their talk when it comes to human rights, labour standards, corruption and environmental issues?" explains Alexandra Mihailescu Cichon, the company's executive vice-president for sales and marketing. "This perspective, in combination with a transparent, rules-based methodology and daily updates, ensures that our clients have consistent, timely and actionable data at

Social Value Portal helps businesses to quantify and communicate social, economic and environmental value creation. According to the company's CEO, Guy Battle: "Clarity about the social value initiatives that a firm is looking to deliver allows people on the ground - whether of the danger of greenwashing and | they are fund or asset managers, property managers, suppliers, occupiers or corporate employees - to pull in the same direction, target important initiatives and you'll get that clarity is from a consistent and accountable framework to report and measure against."

But some investors are sceptical about the accuracy and helpfulness of the information that these technological evaluations produce. Sophie Lawrence is stewardship and engagement lead at Rathbone Greenbank Investments. She says that until there is a more comprehensive regulatory framework in place, requiring the disclosure of comparable, independently verified social data by companies, "We would caution against an overreliance on third-party ESG data tools, which use technology to scrape company-reported social data and aggregate it for investors.

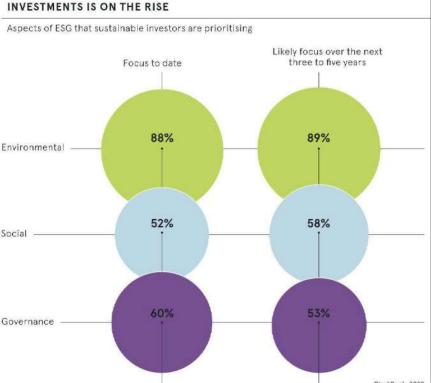
"This approach risks creating an overly simplistic view of company performance."

Johan Vanderlugt is sustainable finance specialist at Van Lanschot Kempen, an independent wealth manager. The metrics employed depend on the AI techniques a data provider chooses to use, he says.

"Transparency regarding data and methodology is a challenge with traditional data providers like MSCI, Sustainalytics, and ISS ESG. And it remains even more so with AI ESG data providers.

"Ultimately, the quality of the data is dependent on the independence of the data source, and this is no different for social data than for environmental data."

# HISTORICALLY NEGLECTED, BUT THE FOCUS ON SOCIAL-BASED



There are numerous factors and variables to manage. The opportunities for different interpretations of facts and figures, though, are also extensive. Tiia Sammallahti is CEO and founder of whatimpact.com, a provider of technology that helps companies on social value through partnerships with charities. She takes the example of a food retailer donating to local homeless people.

"They may also automatically increase that value by including the wider benefits of homeless people being better nourished and therefore more empowered to move into employment or housing," she says, "But this doesn't necessarily take into account whether the food provided is healthy."

Sammallahti suggests that qualitative surveys and interview data could be more accurate and useful than figures published by the company concerned or metrics derived from algorithms. "The key is to com-



Ultimately, the quality of the data is dependent on the independence of the data source, and this is no different for social data than for environmental data

bine tools that are robust in their proxy numbers with qualitative, evidence-based reporting that verifies the impact," she argues. "This enables a more accurate calculation to be matched with the results."

Investors can and should demand more data from companies and data providers that is focused on the effects of the companies' policies and impacts, while paying closer attention to supply chains. So says Nicola Stopps, founder of ESG consultancy Simply Sustainable.

"This is key, because emerging evidence shows that the integration of 'S' criteria in investment analysis leads to improved returns, less volatility and lower downside risk," she says. "Better integration of social indicators in particular can help to identify more resilient and profitable investment opportunities that are already aligned with established and anticipated regulation. It is key for investors to develop a strategy for their total portfolio covering engagement, advocacy and integration. Voluntary policies and tick-box exercises are not a solution for avoiding investment risks."

Despite the complexities and contradictions, Ioannis Ioannou, associate professor of strategy and entrepreneurship at the London Business School, is generally optimistic. He thinks that competition across technology companies with different approaches plus new entrants into the industry will be beneficial in the longer term.

That's because ESG issues in general and S issues more specifically - are complex and continuously evolving.

"We're far from being able to have a single optimal approach or one ideal metric that would adequately capture what's happening on the ground," he says.

"The more ideas we have, the more approaches and the more we criticise and scrutinise them as they compete, the higher the chances that once the industry starts consolidating, we will have metrics and approaches that are more robust." ...



# ESG takes centre stage on the tricky path to 'good business'

Lynne Baber and Jon Williams, partners in PwC UK's newly expanded sustainability practice, outline the evolution of ESG and the need for an integrated approach optimising profit and sustainability

How has the way businesses perceive and approach sustainability evolved?

Regulation has undoubtedly impacted stakeholder expectations, but so too has the wider climate change agenda, social movements like Black Lives Matter and #MeToo, and the pandemic. It is their collective impact that has moved sustainability and ESG from the margins to the mainstream of business. Sustainability is no longer something you can have as an adjunct it's now firmly embedded within strategy, or it should be at least. If companies don't take this seriously it could threaten their reputation, share price, access to capital and talent attraction and retention. We talk about it as 'good business'. Previously, a good business was simply one that made financial you also need a sense of responsibility and, crucially, the ability to optimise both responsibility and profit

The big challenge, of course, is how to do that. It's all about developing a strategy-led mindset rather than a compliance-led mindset. This allows for a broader set of considerations to be in scope, viewed through a 'no regrets' lens. For example, those who have to comply with regulations need to think beyond them and those who don't should nonetheless take a steer from them. The understanding of investors requirements, and the ability to attract and retain talent, is also key. Our PwC 2021 Global Investor survey found that 82% of investors believe that companies should embed ESG directly into their corporate strategy, and 49% said they would sell their investment if a company is not showing enough action

Our focus on helping organisations become good businesses is supported by a framework of 10 attributes. This framework is designed to help organisations think broadly but holistically, recognising the value of integrated thinking, which brings together purpose, commercial strategy and ESG strategy.

We want to live in a society that is balanced with nature, decarbonised and fair

How is the rise of ESG impacting the financial ecosystem?

I've been doing this for over 20 years and for the first 10 years of that it was difficult getting anyone to take ESG seriously. Now everybody is talking about ESG and developing ESG products and services. Banks have to make sure they take ESG into account when lending. Insurers have to think about the climate impact on and of the infrastructure they underwrite. Asset managers need to understand what ESG issues mean for asset values and the development of new products to meet clients' rising demand for responsible investments.

I worry that the rise of ESG as an asset class is the wrong way of thinking about it. What's important is the rise of ESG issues and how companies manage, integrate and communicate them to their stakeholders. Materiality is key. Sometimes companies need to be able to confidently say, I'm not addressing these issues because they're simply not material and I can't influence them or they don't impact me. That honesty and focus on what is material will resonate with investors. Once you've decided something is material, you need to articulate the impact on, in the simplest form, your earnings and assets, your plan to mitigate that impact and what it means for the value of the company. And as an investor or asset manager, how do I ensure the value that is either at risk sense. But to be a good business today or could be created, can be captured?

> COP26 was the year of the target, it seemed. Are the ESG targets we've seen publicised by companies achievable?

Companies face a huge challenge in achieving these targets. The importance of global, consistent standards is key. It's also vital to create the strategy and infrastructure that will successfully support a company's transition - whether that's around data, processes, governance or KPIs - away from the current disjointed state of ESG data. These kinds of frameworks are very mature within financial reporting, having had hundreds of years of development. But as non-financial reporting is still at a nascent stage, companies are struggling to understand the baseline they're working from and what to do to reach their goals. We fundamentally believe it isn't just about compliance - companies need a more integrated approach where they think holistically about purpose, ESG and commercial strategy. Sustainability shouldn't be the side track to your business reporting or strategy, it should be part of it, flowing all the way through to your annual report. For this to feel real, be real and to show it is lived and breathed in an organisation, business and sustainability reporting should be integrated and that should be very clearly reflected throughout the business.

What will be the impact on people?

Our Green Jobs Barometer estimates that 400,000 jobs need to be created in the energy sector alone in the UK to meet the requirements of the energy transition. Now, while there is a pool of 270,000 skilled workers in the oil and gas sector, 20% of them are expected to retire soon, leaving a gap of more than 200,000 jobs to meet the

demands of net-zero targets. I remember the miners' strikes of the 1980s and the impacts it had on whole towns because there wasn't a proper reskilling strategy to take people out of the coal mining industry and move them into new industries. The ability to reskill and retrain is going to be critical because if we don't then there will be stranded companies, jobs and economies in parts of the UK and globally. We've got 10 years - two business cycles - to limit climate change, and what we don't mitigate in those 10 years will then have to managed in the future. We need to ensure the people entering the workforce from schools and universities today will have skills relevant for tomorrow, not for yesterday.

How is PwC helping companies overcome these barriers?

Everyone talks about sustainability being a journey. We are very clear that any journey worth embarking on needs to have an exciting destination. Bringing all our expertise together in our newly expanded sustainability practice enables us to support clients across every stage of their sustainability journey, from strategy and implementation through to reporting. Our brand is based on trust around reporting. We can help companies build the credibility of their non-financial reporting, including climate reporting. We're helping them to develop and implement investment strategies for the future, and supporting them through a fair transition, including reskilling and upskilling, while engendering trust and pivoting risk into opportunity. That's also what we're focusing on in terms of our own business. We're developing a strategy-led mindset rather than a compliance-led mindset. PwC has had a market-leading sustainability practice for over 20 years, so it's almost like the market has caught up in terms of demand. Most recently, we've brought our technical expertise together with our pedigree for broader business acumen to create PwC Sustainability and ensure ESG strategy resonates with the C-suite leaders who are now being met with demands to do something in this important space.



Sustainability shouldn't be the side track to your business reporting or strategy

What is the future of sustainable business?

I don't see any other outcome than sustainable business because. frankly, without a sustainable planet and sustainable societies, you don't have a viable business. We want to live in a society that is balanced with nature, decarbonised and fair. But I don't for one minute assume that we'll get there on a nice, clear linear path. We are going to have deviations because the rollout of technologies doesn't work as quickly, or because governments and priorities change, or because there might be further major economic or geopolitical shocks. Businesses need to be clear with governments about the urgency to do this. PwC can act as the connector between what we hear our corporate clients saying, what we hear our finance-sector clients saying and what we hear governments saying, ensuring we do our piece to drive towards a sustainable outcome. There is no alternative sustainable business has to become business as usual. It's good business.

For more information, visit pwc.co.uk/services/risk/insights/ good-business-framework.html



# Tough climate: global ESG regulations and the UK investor

Sustainable investing around the world is governed by an alphabet soup of regulations. Here's what UK investors need to know

Nicola Tavendale

overnments and their financial watchdogs have accelerated their efforts in ESG finance in recent years, rolling out a dizzying array of rules and regulations. This has created a kaleidoscope of policies, differing vastly by geography and jurisdiction.

ESG issues were first mentioned in the 2006 UN Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) report, requiring the criteria to be incorporated in the financial evaluations of companies. But the regulatory output has truly ramped up over the past two years, as policymakers and officials work to ensure providers meet the necessary criteria.



We must learn from the lessons of the EU SFDR implementation and build on those to create a framework that enables the UK financial market to transition

ESG is, though, a relatively new sector in | ment firms or institutions, and is intended terms of regulatory development and there are numerous criticisms and pitfalls created by the new rules. What's more, the lack of common definitions around environmental sustainability heightens the risk of firms engaging in 'greenwashing' - misleading investors and consumers about how green a product really is.

According to the UK Treasury, about 70% of the British public want their money to help make a positive difference to people or the planet. What, then, do investors definitively need to know about global ESG policies so that they can ensure they are making informed decisions?

The EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR), which came into effect in March 2021, remains the most significant piece of ESG regulation for UK investors. It is a key part of the EU's overarching ambitions to direct more capital towards truly sustainable investment firms and financial products. This includes an attempt to reduce the occurrence of greenwashing, increase transparency and standardise the labelling of investment products. SFDR sits alongside the EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Activities and the EU Climate Benchmark rules, all of which are part of the wider EU Sustainable Finance Action Plan.

to apply to all financial products marketed within the EU, including those managed by

One important aspect of SFDR is that financial products can be classified into three Articles. There is Article 6, which covers products that do not integrate ESG considerations into the investment decision-making process. The Article 9 classification indicates a product that has sustainable investment as its main objective, while Article 8 focuses on products that promote ESG principles, but where ESG investing is not the key objective. Disclosures are required at both the firm and product level for financial products with an ESG focus - and for those without.

Agathe Kuhn is associate director of policy and legislation at global sustainability consultancy Longevity Partners. She explains that lenders targeting Article 8 or 9 classification for their funds under SFDR will need to disclose and consistently report against clear sustainability indicators to show investors that they are delivering on their green claims.

"The SFDR regulation has implications for UK financial market participants who market their funds in the EU. EU investors are increasingly keen on Article 8 and Arti-SFDR applies to a wide range of financial | cle 9 funds and apply pressure on UK FMPs market participants (FMPs), such as invest- to reclassify their funds as such," she adds.





The three European Supervisory Authorities have also recently published clarifications concerning draft regulatory technical standards. These included the financial product disclosures under the Taxonomy Regulation.

Emma Russell is head of the finance practice group at the international corporate law firm Haynes and Boone. She comments that, while UK investors are already feeling the effects of global ESG regulations coming into force this year, this is just the beginning. They should also be well prepared for ESG regulation to impact activity even more significantly, going forward.

"The SFDR - in particular - will require close attention from UK investors, as it sets out prescriptive standards to report against," she says.

"The new regulations will mean that ESG investing should touch increasing pockets of the market."

# 'Future regulations must accommodate a range of investment strategies to support the transition to net zero'

Jack Inglis, chief executive, Alternative Investment Management Association (AIMA), explains why hedge funds are poised for sustainability and what investment managers expect from future regulation



How are hedge fund managers incentivised to pursue net-zero investing strategies and what are the challenges they face to implement them?

Net-zero commitments and reporting have traditionally focused on a specific model of long-term, buy-and-hold, engagement-heavy equity investing.

But things are slowly shifting. Investor interest in whether hedge funds have established net-zero investment strategies and targets is on the rise, with questions about firm or product-level net-zero targets increasingly featuring in the due diligence process. This is incentivising hedge funds to consider how the net-zero philosophy might work in the context of their strategies.

This means confronting some of the challenges that arise in articulating a net-zero target for an alternative investment strategy.

A net-zero commitment entails defining what share of AUM will be managed in line with net zero by 2030, with a view to 100% coverage by 2050. But setting a credible interim target is not straightforward for a high-turnover portfolio that might change its composition radically by that date. This is not an issue that long-only, index-tracking portfolios have to grapple with, given they enjoy much less freedom than hedge funds in terms of what they invest in.

Equally, a hedge fund might invest in asset types for which methodologies for assessing emissions and emissionsreduction plans are much less developed, including sovereign investments.

These challenges will take time to resolve, but the desire to confront them is building.

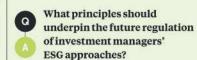


How could investment strategies typically associated with hedge funds be incorporated into net-zero commitments?

Something that differentiates hedge funds from long-only products is their ability to use more sophisticated investment tools and techniques, including short positions and derivatives. We believe this sophistication could ultimately give alternative investment managers the edge in sustainable investing.

Short selling, for example, can be an excellent tool for achieving two common goals of contemporary responsible investment. The first is to provide a better approach to addressing undesired ESG risks than simply exclusions or disinvestment, noting that ESG risks cannot be avoided entirely. Secondly, when taken in aggregate, short selling is a way to create economic impact by influencing the nature of capital flows through active investing. We've seen a growing industry consensus that disclosure to investors of long and short exposures to ESG risks is vital to allow them to fully assess how their investment managers are doing when it comes to sustainability considerations.

How specifically shorting should be handled in net-zero commitments is the subject of a lively and welcome debate. The key for us is to ensure that the way hedge funds report to end investors has sufficient detail about the approach and its strengths and limitations.



Future regulations, such as the FCA's Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (SDR) will need to accommodate various strategies to support the transition to a net-zero economy. We've argued that regulation should not ignore the impact of short positions and derivatives exposures and further thought be given to how firms report on these under climate or sustainability reporting requirements.

We also believe it's important that future regulation of investment managers' ESG approaches is based on the principle of materiality, acknowledging the reality that investment managers can only report on their ESG exposures if the corporates they invest in are reporting comprehensive data on ESG factors. This has important implications for the sequencing of rules. Finally, regulators should be mindful that poorly crafted disclosure rules could even heighten greenwashing risks, particularly if regulation is based on unclear product boundaries or classification systems.



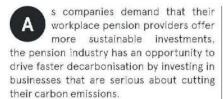
Jack Inglis Chief executive, Alternative Investment

Management Association (AIMA)

# How pension funds can help decarbonise the planet quickly

Commercial feature

Smart Pension's CIO Paul Bucksey explains why sustainable investing should focus on carbon reduction rather than offsetting, and how technology can make ESG investing cheaper



Pension holders are also increasingly willing to accept slightly lower returns if their investments are more ESG friendly. A Smart Pension survey in 2021 found that 39% of respondents said they would be willing to earn a lower return on their pension savings in order to create a better future world. This year, that number has

"We believe that investing in companies that are doing good things for people and the planet will actually generate a better investment return," says Paul Bucksey, chief investment officer at Smart Pension. "We think it's a slightly moot point anyway because we don't think you have to sacrifice returns for doing the right thing."

While some pension schemes are attempting to meet their net-zero targets by buying carbon offsets, Bucksey says this doesn't actually help reduce emissions.



**Smart Pension reduces** costs associated with sustainable investing through the technology platform Keystone

"In and of itself, offsetting doesn't actually decarbonise the economy," he says. "If you're claiming to be achieving net zero by using offsets, that's a little bit disingenuous - it's just kicking the can down the road. And, if you take into account the cost of buying offsets, compared to the potential for better returns by investing in decarbonising companies, we believe the latter is a better approach financially, too."

For Bucksey, a more authentic approach to sustainable investing is to focus on companies or projects that are actively decarbonising the economy. That means investing in assets that are already contributing to a low-carbon economy, such as renewable energy providers. It also means engaging with companies that are striving to improve their green credentials by having a clear carbon-reduction plan, and then funding their transition. Smart Pension is making impact allocations, such as investing in biodiversity projects and green bonds, as well as new carbon transition strategies.

"There are a number of strategies we've identified that we're confident will lead to decarbonisation," says Bucksey,

While pension providers have traditionally allowed scheme members to select the level of risk they are willing to take, he says that for ESG funds it makes more sense to adopt a belief-based system that allows members to choose their investments based on how

"There's no one size fits all with ESG." Bucksey continues. "One person might be more interested in excluding tobacco from their investments, while someone else might have a stronger preference for leaving fossil fuels out of their portfolio. With our digital platform, we're able to move away from a very bland risk-rated approach to one that is

beliefs-orientated and gives members more

He says that this approach means scheme members can choose between different shades of green-flavoured funds. For instance, some might want to invest in a darker shade of green that has a more immediate ESG impact but is therefore slightly more expensive. Others might prefer to invest in a lighter shade of green that has a slower impact trajectory but is therefore slightly cheaper.

Part of the reason why sustainable investments tend to cost more from a fee perspective compared to traditional passive or index-fund investments is that more active management is often involved, with some projects having more venture capital-like characteristics.

Smart Pension reduces costs associated with sustainable investing through the technology platform Keystone, which was developed by its parent company Smart. By automating administrative processes, Smart Pension can lower its own fees and ensure more pension holders' contributions

go into investments. "It's all about embracing technology and really understanding what our customers want," he says. "We're investing in a way that is going to generate good returns but will also ultimately benefit society more broadly, as well as the planet," says Bucksey.

Find out more about Smart Pension at www.smartpension.co.uk, or Smart's Keystone retirement technology platform at www.smart.co







Executive vice-president of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis, speaking at a press conference on the new Sustainable Finance measures

Following Brexit, the UK was free to chart its own regulatory course for ESG rules and policymaking. As a result, it became the first G20 country to make it mandatory for the country's largest businesses to disclose their climate-related risks and opportunities, in line with the Task Force on the Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations.

The UK's 'answer to SFDR' covers a range of disclosures, including the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) plans to introduce Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (SDR) in September, after extended delays.

Jodie Tapscott is a vice-president and the director of responsible investing strategy at AllianceBernstein (AB). She says that, while the EU's SFDR no doubt has the largest impact on the global investment community, for UK investors it is the SDR that will likely improve their understanding of the key ESG characteristics of their funds.

"The introduction of the new ESG-related product disclosure regulations will result in better transparency of philosophy, process and metrics of investment products that integrate ESG, as well as those that pursue ESG-related objectives," she says. "The regulations are targeted at ensuring 'truth in advertising' and should help UK investors have more clarity and confidence in the investments they're making, while also keeping product issuers accountable when implementing their investment processes."

Tapscott says the various new ESG and climate-related corporate disclosure requirements will also improve the quality of corporate ESG data available to investors. "This will enable investors to better assess the material ESG risks and opportunities of portfolio companies and issuers, to better assess the credibility of issuers' sustainability and climate strategies, and to deepen our stewardship activities when we engage for insight and for action," she adds.

According to the Treasury, the new integrated regime is intended to bring together and streamline existing climate reporting requirements, such as the UK's commitment to implement mandatory reporting aligned with the TCFD - and go further.

"This will ensure consumers and investors have all the information they need to make investment decisions that drive a positive environmental impact," it adds. Importantly, the new requirements will also apply to pension schemes, investment products and asset managers and owners.

SDR will introduce a set of disclosure obligations for corporations, asset managers and owners, as well as investment products. Those subject to the new reporting rules will have to disclose information on the environmental impact of financed activities, clearly justify any sustainability claims and lay out transition plans in their annual reports. These requirements seek to ensure that investors and consumers driven by sustainability have access to the information they need to make their decisions.

"Detailed reporting requirements under the SDR will be developed following a government consultation and enter into force in the next two years," she adds. "This period gives experts the opportunity to inform the decision-making process and should be capitalised on by industry leaders and future reporting entities. We must learn from the lessons of the EU SFDR implementation and build on those to create a framework that enables the UK financial market to transition."

TCFD reporting has been mandatory in the UK since April 2022, impacting UK-traded companies, banks and insurers, as well as private companies with more than 500 employees and £500m in turnover. As a policy, TCFD stands in contrast to regulations such as the SFDR and EU Taxonomy, in that it focuses firms' attention on the impact that climate change could have on their operations, as opposed to the other way around. Kuhn explains.

"In terms of its effect, mandatory TCFD disclosure will increase the amount of climate-related information on the market. which will act as a force for good," she adds. "The new requirement will increase the proportion of companies that analyse their material exposure to climate risk, which will in turn help to inform investors on the level of climate risk across their portfolio. Firms with robust scenario analysis and appropriate mitigation measures may be seen as less risky, which will aid their ability to attract long-term investment."

The first reporting period for TCFD commenced this year for large asset managers, with plans to extend this to smaller managers next year. "This is just the beginning of the regulatory treatment of ESG. To date, particular emphasis has been on the environmental aspects of ESG, which has in

part been due to the prescriptive requirements of the SDFR and the UK Green taxonomies. But, attention is likely to move toward the social and governance aspects of ESG, which will increase requirements on the UK investment community," says Russell. She thinks that many ESG-challenged sectors have also become too divested because of ESG regulation; there needs to be greater recognition that divestment does not always bring the desired effect. "Investors have high expectations of implementation this year. Going forward, transparent disclosure and forward-looking data will be key," she comments.

The UK Green Taxonomy is still in draft but is expected to closely follow the EU Taxonomy in providing a common classification system for sustainable economic activities which will underpin the SDR. The full technical screening criteria for the UK Taxonomy are due to be finalised by the end of 2023, according to the FCA, but this deadline is under revision. "This system will directly impact large corporates and the financial sector in its effect on reporting, disclosure and green labelling," Kuhn says.

The US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has proposed its own version of mandatory climate risk disclosures as part of firms' annual reporting. Under the proposed rules, companies would be



# **Mandatory TCFD** disclosure will increase the amount of climaterelated information on the market, which will act as a force for good

required to report on the oversight of climate-related risks, how such risks are managed and the inclusion of physical and transitional risk on financial statements. The rules are under review and may be finalised as early as the end of this year, with disclosures beginning - for the largest companies - in 2024.

"This demonstrates that ESG transparencv laws are fast becoming the global standard beyond Europe as well," Kuhn says. "This is likely to have an impact on UK investors with operations in the US, with disclosures being required for both domestic and foreign registrants.

The SEC has said that the proposed rules would also require firms to disclose information about their direct greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, using a similar system to the global corporate standard protocol established in 2001. Under this system, scope 1 covers the GHG emissions that a company makes directly, while scope 2 emissions are those it makes indirectly from purchased electricity or other forms of energy, for example to heat or cool its buildings. Scope 3 covers all emissions for which a firm is indirectly responsible "from upstream and downstream activities in its value chain".

Smaller reporting companies may be exempt from disclosing scope 3 GHG emissions, adds Kuhn. "However, all public companies will be required to disclose scope 1 and scope 2 emissions at minimum."

Tapscott warns that one of the key challenges for global investment managers is responding to differences in the reporting, labelling and disclosure regulations required by the various regions. She notes that the industry appreciates the regulatory willingness to run open consultations, which is aided by the active participation of various industry bodies in coordinating consultation feedback for the regulators. "Continuing to offer opportunities for investment practitioners to provide input into future ESG regulations will ensure they are consistent, achieve their intent and are practical to implement," she adds. ...

# How the multiplier effect can help drive greater sustainability

CBRE Investment Management's head of sustainability Helen Gurfel explains how real estate and infrastructure businesses can influence their networks to create meaningful change

(ESG) become a growing priority for the world, real estate and infrastructure by influencing stakeholders across the built environment

To put that scale of potential influence in context, with almost \$150bn in assets under management, CBRE Investment Management (CBRE IM) has a portfolio that equates to the size of an average city. By engaging and influencing its network of investors, operators and tenants to adopt more sustainable practices. CBRE IM aims for a multiplier effect that will significantly move the needle on ESG and create a more sustainable future. The firm believes that a focus on sustainability can enhance returns and mitigate risk for its investors.

To underpin this goal, CBRE IM has adopted a three-pronged approach that incorporates climate, people and influence.

"As a global leader in real assets investing, CBRE IM has an opportunity and responsibility to help the environment and the communities we serve," says Helen Gurfel, head of sustainability and innovation at CBRE IM. "Our opportunity lies in using our market position, scale and expertise to influence how buildings are built, managed, occupied and sold. We regularly exert our influence as a global investment manager through robust engagement with our stakeholders, including tenants, employees, clients and communities."

Depending on the investment strategy, CBRE Investment Management will have different approaches for engagement and driving change.

"Since millions of people use our assets every day, we strive to help improve their social and physical wellbeing," Gurfel says. "One of our many tenant-engagement programmes aims to anticipate and address tenants' needs through next-generation property management and place-making practices that enhance tenant satisfaction and retention."

The firm is also able to partner with tenants to help them develop their own ESG mandates

Gurfel says that with operations in 20 countries worldwide, the firm thinks creatively as to how it can accelerate decarbonisation across its portfolio where possible. For example, CBRE IM has over 600 logistics assets spanning 200 million square feet, and Gurfel says the firm is establishing a solar programme across its logistics assets in Europe and the US.

"Recently we started working on four community solar-rooftop projects,

s environmental, social and which will provide renewable energy at solutions, which has invested signifiissues a lower cost to our tenants and also the cantly in new types of vessels and ecolarger community, as well as accelerate | friendly technology, including hybrid governments and companies around our decarbonisation efforts," she says. and battery-driven vessels. Since the "These projects require engaging with | Initial acquisition, Norled has launched investment management businesses tenants to get their buy in for implement the world's first hydrogen-electric ferry. are in a unique position to drive change | tation and in some cases have led to fur- | While this is a clear win for the environther sustainability engagement."

# Investors

The firm has deep relationships with institutional investors around the world and considers these to be a significant catalyst for change. "As an investor-operator, we strive to help our investors understand that driving sustainable operational efficiencies can improve returns and mitigate risk. We also work with our clients to measure these results through industry-recognised frameworks, which has further deepened their desire to expand their own initiatives.

Our assets are the building blocks of communities, and we want to have a positive impact in making these communities stronger

# Companies

When CBRE IM invests in listed securities, they actively engage with those companies to understand their ESG strategy and risk factors; convey the responsible practices which are most important; and influence them to apply best practices and a disciplined proxy voting process.

Similarly, when CBRE IM invests with other managers, they require the other managers to either have in place or agree to implement certain ESG commitments. CBRE IM also engages with partners on an ongoing basis to continuously improve their portfolios. As an example, they ran a physical risk assessment for all 8,000 assets in their indirectly managed portfolio and asked managers to create plans to mitigate any identified physical climate risk.

In their infrastructure portfolio, CBRE M's sustainability commitments include investments in renewable energy and sustainable transportation. Their infrastructure team now owns a company called Norled, a leader in innovative and environmentally friendly transportation

ment, the sector's resillence also makes it an attractive investor proposition.

# Communities

"Our assets are the building blocks of communities, and we want to have a pos-Itive impact in making these communities stronger," says Gurfel

The firm recently worked across several stakeholder groups on a new life science development in Atlanta, partnering with a developer, a client and a new tenant to create an educational fund that helped establish a life science initiative to train teachers and students in the surrounding neighbourhood in careers in biotech. "We want to make sure that we're creating communities that are genuinely giving people the opportunity to thrive," Gurfel notes.

### Employee upskilling Gurfel believes that change must begin

with the firm's own people. "They are a critical component of our ecosystem," she says. "A vital aspect of integrating sustaina-

bility across our global business is knowledge and education, which is why one of our key objectives is to create greater sustainability fluency across our organisation," she says. "Education drives empowerment, so we're upskilling our entire organisation to positively influence others across our network."

CBRE IM's employee engagement programme started with an internal sustainability knowledge hub, which provides educational tools and resources, including a gamified learning platform, that has helped employees further embrace sustainability efforts.

To further integrate sustainability across the organisation, the firm launched an ESG ambassador programme comprising 80 internal champions who will embark on a formal learning programme centred on sustainability.

Gurfel concludes: "If you're not embracing sustainability then you are missing an opportunity. Standing still is no longer an option. The more people have a sustainability mindset, the better off we are as a society."

For more information please visit cbreim.com





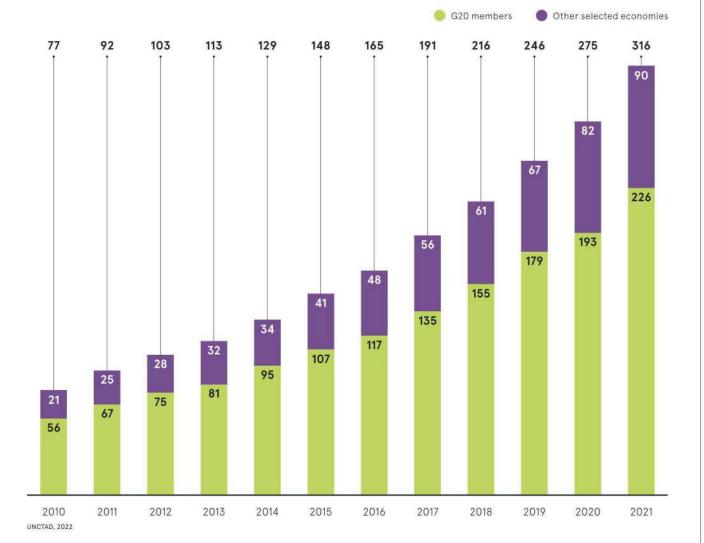
of the British public want their money to help make a positive difference to people or planet

of executives worldwide believe that volatility of regulatory requirements is one of the largest barriers to ESG progress

PwC US, 2021

# SUSTAINABLE FINANCE POLICIES

Cumulative number of sustainable finance policy regulations among the 35 economies accounting for 93% of global GDP



BACKLASH

Can ESG maintain an upward trend? US politicians have brought ESG into the war on 'woke'. How might such attacks affect the growing sustainable investment sector? significant, according to Dr Daniel Klier, CEO of sustainable data experts ESG Book and former global head of sustainable finance and group head of strategy at HSBC. ESG investments face increasing scrutiny, as industry figures such as Tariq Fancy, former global head of sustainable investing at BlackRock, question data reliability in the sector and its promise to deliver a positive environmental and social impact. ESG is "very vulnerable" to being co-opted for the culture wars, says Klier, partly because the public doesn't always understand what it is. "Unless we give people the tools to unpack what E, S and G actually mean, you will get into these situations, with people interpreting things in a way that may not be intended," he says. Klier believes this situation was inevitable, as the industry has been overhyped for some time. "There is no CEO or invest-

n August 2022, Florida governor Ron DeSantis passed a resolution that bans fund managers from applying environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors when investing for the state's pension funds.

Sam Haddad

The move underscored a new reality for ESG investing: it is now firmly part of the culture wars.

DeSantis bemoaned ESG investments as using corporate power to "impose an ideological agenda on the American people" and accused Wall Street financial firms of employing ESG to implement policies that Florida voters had rejected at the ballot box.

The DeSantis play might seem to be a parochial US political concern, far removed from the sustainable finance landscape in

which promotes responsible investment. He thinks the political backlash to ESG in the US has made it a legitimate time to question what it really

means and is a good opportunity to ensure there is clarity and transparency in how responsible investment is being promoted.

either the

UK or Europe.

But it is nonetheless

ment officer speech that doesn't address

ESG," he says. Now is the right time for the

"We've been through ESG 1.0, which was

very much driven by exclusionary ap-

proaches, such as not investing in coal or

fossil fuels, and a single often quite opaque

ESG score," he says, "It's time for the next

stage, where there is real transparency and

For Klier, ESG 2.0 should deliver a

nuanced discussion around what investors

are trying to achieve, whether that's a

return-enhancement strategy, a risk-man-

Simon Rawson is director of corporate

engagement at Share Action, a charity

agement strategy, or an impact strategy.

integration into investment choices."

industry to grow up, he suggests.

Rawson notes the interesting parallel trend among regulators, especially in the EU which, he says, is leading the way in passing laws to scrutinise green- and ESGwashing. It reveals the "real responsible investment and ensures there are no new misselling scandals with asset managers and others making false claims," he says.

For Klier, the public's understanding of ESG would be helped by clearer labelling - a focus for the EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation - and adopting a more data-driven transparent approach.

mance, nobody is just interested in a firm's profit. They want to understand, 'Is it a revenue problem? Or a cost problem? Or to do with the number of customers?" he says. the same point - people want to double-click and double-click and actually unpack what sits behind a single score."

A more nuanced approach can help avoid a scenario where politically charged issues

Some investors, particularly private investors, may be emotional about certain topics, he notes. "Then you can build thematic strategies: for example, if they want

"If you think about financial perfor-"With non-financial data we're getting to

dominate an ESG investment portfolio. "I don't think this debate benefits from diving into a single issue and overstressing it." says Klier. "When we think about ESG we think about 450 metrics for every company and I think ESG, and especially S, works best if you look at it holistically."

to back companies that are led by female founders or to back companies that have a better-than-average diversity on the board. But it's driven by data," he says. Rawson agrees: "If a business was taking

behind a single score

in a firm's profit. With nonfinancial data we're getting to the same point, people want to unpack what sits

If you think about financial performance, nobody is just interested

a particularly extreme approach on a social issue which was arguably harmful to society, that would be a legitimate argument for stepping back. But some of those issues are better settled in democratic debate and our political system."

Despite the vocal minority in the US, Rawson says data from real investors show that 95% of millennials continue to be interested in sustainable investing, while 85% of all investors continue to be interested in responsible investing, according to a Morgan Stanley study.

He believes the culture wars are a response to the increasing polarisation in society, fuelling instability and systemic risk within the investment sector, but that pandering and rejecting ESG factors as a result is not the answer.

"A chunk of the wealth that is invested is ultimately owned by pension savers and beneficiaries, who may even have these lowpaid jobs. What's the point of having a pension that is 10% more valuable if we're living in a world that is inhospitable because of runaway climate change? Or in having a pension pot that is 10% bigger if you've worked all your life on such low pay that your health and wellbeing has suffered?"

Rawson isn't convinced the culture war discourse around ESG will spread to the UK. 'We've seen that asset owners and people interested in responsible investment can see through this culture-war rhetoric. They know that slipping back into a system that prioritises financial returns at all costs is the opposite of what we need now," he says.

The same debate isn't occurring in other parts of the world, says Klier, despite the new pressures coming through inflation and high energy prices. At the same time, the US remains the fastest-moving ESG market globally. "We see the biggest demand in the US market because people have realised they've missed out on a very important dimension of their investment decisions over the last few years and are trying to catch up," he says.

# POPULAR SUPPORT Share of citizens of select countries who support more investment in the green economy and green jobs South Africa Argentina UNDP, University of Oxford, 2020

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# 'This movement is not about moral philosophy, it's a free-market response to real risks'

Nathan Fabian, chief responsible investment officer, Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), provides a brief history of the sustainable investment industry and highlights future challenges and opportunities

How has the sustainable investing industry developed over the last two decades?

Since the Kvoto Protocol, companies and investors have been thinking about how to respond to a world where government agreements are being made on climate change mitigation. PRI was formed in 2006 with just a handful of members who agreed simply that investors should start to consider environmental, social and governance factors. This was not a high bar, but it was a starting point for recognising that the world was changing around environmental trends.

The story of how the industry has developed since then can be told through three numbers: \$100tn, \$20tn and \$2tn.

Today, PRI has 5,000 institutional investors signed on, which account for more than \$100tn of investment. The managers of those assets have all agreed to consider ESG. But climate objectives have become more precise with agreements like the Paris Accords and the Sustainable Development Goals, and investors have acknowledged the need to get more precise as well. So within that \$100tn, \$20tn is allocated through a strategy that attempts to be explicit about environmental or social performance. But then there's an even smaller share, approaching \$2tn, invested with the primary purpose of being active, specific and intentional about positive environmental and social impacts.

So those three numbers - \$100tn, \$20tn and \$2tn - illustrate the industry's growth and the growing importance of specificity and measurability. But they also demonstrate how far we have to go before we know whether financial market activity will contribute to environmental and social goals in a meaningful way.

Has the emphasis on sustainability forced investors to reconsider value and risk?

The focus on sustainability has revealed a new category of longterm investment risk. Investors are responding to the world around them and they recognise the need to value companies differently. Sometimes a client will demand a financial product that aligns with environmental or social outcomes, but more often the key drivers of change are regulation and policy, technology and pricing.

Investors are considering their portfolios and taking stock of this new, longterm risk category. Institutional investors in particular realise that unless they position their capital differently or influence the environmental or social outcomes that affect higher-risk holdings, there will be significant impacts on those investments, which are meant to perform well, in perpetuity over decades. These revised assessments of longterm risk are now an essential part of the fiduciary role.

Ultimately, this movement is not about moral philosophy, it's a prudent assessment of what's going on in the investment environment - a free-market response to

What will enable further growth in the sustainable investing industry in the future?

Some regulation and policy will be standardised across jurisdictions and some will vary by region. As a baseline, corporate accounting standards describing how ESG factors affect enterprise value are desirable and we will likely get those through the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB).

Financial product disclosures on the other hand will be regulated differently in different countries. What's important is that countries have clear environmental goals and clear descriptions of how economic activities are aligning with those goals. The ISSB's standardisation project is called a 'baseline' because it provides a common global basis that different countries can build on with their own financial laws.

The behaviour that presents the greatest threat to the industry is misstating commitments to ESG or measurable actions towards sustainability. If real assessments of sustainability performance are not being made, there can be no compelling defence against those who criticise on the basis of greenwashing. If investors cannot be precise about their sustainability actions and the results, they will appear to be responding to a broader social agenda, rather than fulfilling essential duties to their clients and beneficiaries.



Nathan Fabian Chief responsible investment officer, Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)

THE BOSS





# Macquarie mulls splashing out £1bn on British ports empire

Sam Chambers

One of the world's biggest investment firms is mulling a £1 billion bid for PD Ports, a logistics empire spanning the strike-plagued port of Felixstowe in the south to

Teesport in the northeast. Australian powerhouse Macquarie is said to have rekindled its interest after PD Ports' owner, the Canadian private equity giant

Brookfield, halted an auction of the business in November amid a legal row with the South Tees Development Corporation (STDC), which owns the land surrounding Teesport.

Bids in the original auction are said to have reached about £1.3 billion, but the economic backdrop, financing environment and performance of PD Ports have deteriorated in the ensuing

ten months. Brookfield was originally seeking £2 billion for the business, but City sources said that if Macquarie submits a bid, it is likely be nearer £1 billion. Macquarie declined to comment.

In 2021, sales at PD Ports were down 8 per cent to £179.5 million and pre-tax profits tumbled by 60 per cent to £29.9 million. Brookfield said that after accounting for the impact of backdated rent payments received in 2020, the underlying performance of PD Ports had improved last year. The private equity firm extracted a £35 million dividend from the business in 2021. Brookfield said it had no

intention of selling PD Ports. Macquarie's infrastructure fund has ploughed tens of billions of pounds into UK assets in recent years. Its portfolio spans airports,

windfarms and the motorway service station operator Roadchef.

The Australian investor was criticised for raking in billions in dividends from Thames Water before selling out in 2017 shortly before the company was fined £20 million for polluting the river. Last year, Macquarie paid more than £1 billion for a majority stake in Southern

Teesport, which generates the bulk of PD Ports' profits, sits at the heart of a freeport an area where taxes are levied on imported goods only if they are moved

elsewhere in the UK.

The STDC, which has responsibility for regenerating the site, is suing Brookfield over access rights to the port. Brookfield believes that the STDC, which pulled together a consortium

to bid for PD Ports, used the lawsuit as an attempt to drive down the price of the company. STDC denied the allegation.

It is understood that neither STDC nor Peel Ports, another firm involved in last year's auction, are planning to submit fresh bids for PD Ports.

PD Ports also owns warehousing facilities at the port of Felixstowe, where

workers are planning an eight-day strike in protest at the offer of a 7 per cent pay rise. The strike, scheduled to begin on September 27, will be the second this year.

Separately, PD Ports is suing P&O North Sea Ferries for payment of £910,843 after allegedly failing to meet contractual obligations at Teesport. P&O did not respond to a request for comment.

# Kwarteng torip up EU rules to **boost City**

Chancellor set to use mini-budget on Friday to deliver on growth pledge

Jill Treanor

Kwasi Kwarteng is expected to signal his determination to boost economic growth to his target of 2.5 per cent a year by committing to tear up rules that insurers claim stop them investing billions of pounds a year across the country.

The period of mourning for the Queen has prevented full details of the chancellor's mini-budget being finalised before Friday's announcement to MPs, but Kwarteng is known to be keen to boost the City by scrapping EU rules that cap bankers' bonuses to twice their salaries. He also wants to rip up Solvency II rules that, insurers say, inhibit their ability to pump an estimated £95 billion into longterm infrastructure projects such as windfarms and social housing.

The Financial Services and Markets bill, which was introduced to parliament just before the summer recess and after previous chancellor Rishi Sunak had resigned, provides a mechanism for Solvency II to be replaced. However, it could take years to pass through parliament.

The intent of the bill is to revoke all "EU-derived legislation", but it may not allow Liz Truss to achieve her goal of scrapping all EU rules by the end of 2023, so allowing her government to follow its "unashamedly" pro-growth agenda.

When Kwarteng stands up before MPs on Friday in the Commons, the City will be looking for signs that he intends to speed up the process. He is expected to use his "fiscal event" to follow through on the pledges made by Truss when she was in a battle with Sunak for leadership of the Conservative Party.

These included commitments to reverse the planned increase in national insurance and not to implement the planned rise in corporation tax from 19 to 25 per cent, as well as an overhaul of Solvency II. The latter would require support from the Bank of England's Prudential Regulation Authority, which has raised concerns about whether protections for insurance policyholders would be reduced if the Solvency II rules were stripped away.

Friday's measures are being announced at a time when markets are febrile, with the pound hitting a 37-year low against the dollar last week, and concerns being raised over how the government will finance its support packages for households and businesses at the same time as cutting taxes. They will come after an interest rate decision on Thursday, when rates could rise from 1.75 per cent by half a percentage point, or even three-quarters, as the Bank aims to get inflation down from nearly 10 per cent.

Yesterday, Kwarteng and the Bank's governor, Andrew Bailey, met the bosses of the big banks to thrash out the details of an "energy markets financing scheme" to reduce the costs faced by energy firms when they are buying gas and electricity in the wholesale market. The scheme is being devised as a last resort. Only firms that are in robust financial health will be able to participate.

Before Kwarteng speaks on Friday, the government is expected to set out how Truss's energy price guarantee to freeze average household energy bills at £2,500 a year will work in practice. A similar scheme to cap the amount that suppliers can charge firms is also being devised.

Small businesses are desperate for details about how this will work. Liam Conway at the consultancy Control Energy Costs said that his clients were "in limbo" waiting for details.

A full budget is expected in the autumn, when the Office for Budget Responsibility will also publish forecasts and the costs of the government's plans. Until then, economists are weighing up the likely impact of Friday's announce-

Gerard Lyons, an economist in the Truss camp, said the plans were "geared to preventing the deep recession that looked inevitable a few months ago".

Economic rescue, pages 2-3 Jim Armitage, page 9

# **BONAS BOSSES TOOK £2M PAYOUTS**



Oliver Tress co-founded high street chain Oliver Bonas with Timothy Hollidge in 1993

The directors of fashion and homeware retailer Oliver **Bonas extracted almost** £2 million in dividends during the pandemic, despite receiving furlough payments and benefiting from the business rates holiday, writes Sam Chambers.

**Oliver Tress and Timothy** Hollidge shared dividends of £990,000 in both 2020 and 2021, according to accounts filed at Companies House.

Oliver Bonas grew from a single shop in southwest London to a nationwide chain. It reported £7.5 million pre-tax profit on sales of £92.9 million last year. Pre-tax profits were £1.3 million in 2020.

Oliver Bonas, which

employs about 1,100 staff, acknowledges it benefited from furlough payments, but has not disclosed the sum. It has also not disclosed the sum of business rates relief granted across its 75 stores, which shut during lockdowns.

Oliver Bonas did not respond to a request for comment.

# Dechra sets out to be biggest firm on a four-day week

Jim Armitage

A FTSE 100 pharmaceuticals giant is testing plans to put its workforce onto a four-day week to improve work-life balance and make it easier to recruit staff.

Dechra Pharmaceuticals, whose 2,000 employees make prescription medicines for pets and farm animals, is exploring ways to squeeze five days' output into four by changing shift patterns at its factories and offices.

Ian Page, Dechra's chief executive, said: "Recruitment is so difficult, across the piece. The number of factories in the north of England that have got big banners outside saying 'We're recruiting' is unbelievable."

Hiring is particularly difficult in pharmaceuticals because many of the roles are highly technical – meaning, Page explained, that employers have to think creatively to attract talent.

"If you can offer a four-day week, you know that anybody who's conscientious will still pick up emails and still do a couple of hours on a Friday morning," he said.

Page acknowledged that trimming the working days of

manufacturing plants is difficult due to the need to keep expensive equipment running regularly. However, by changing factories' operating patterns, Dechra is also experimenting with abolishing the Friday night shift. "We're finding ways to

better for people," he said. The company employs 710 staff in its factories around the world, of whom 260 are in Skipton, North Yorkshire.

get that work-life balance

Dechra's Cheshire head office is already largely closed on Fridays as people work from home, Page added, saying the move has had the side-effect of cutting the company's energy bills.

If Page succeeds in getting Dechra down to a four-day week, it will be the bigges: company to do so. The challenger bank Atom introduced it last November, recently reporting that the trial had been "overwhelmingly positive"

for employees, improving productivity and job satisfaction.

Cambridgeshire district council is also set to trial the policy for 470 desk workers.

Interview, page 5

# THG chief Moulding explores office sale

Sam Chambers

THG chief executive and cofounder Matt Moulding is exploring a sale of the beauty retailer's offices in Cheshire after a collapse in the company's share price.

Property agents from OBi have been approaching potential buyers on behalf of Moulding, who is said to have initiated the process after receiving an unsolicited offer for the group of five offices on a business park on the outskirts of Northwich.

In the run-up to THG's float in 2020, the board signed off on a sale and leaseback deal that saw companies controlled by Moulding take ownership of THG's

properties, which included the offices, warehouses and a country club.

Moulding sold a

to THG for £100 million this year. He charges THG £806,220 a year to rent the Northwich offices on leases to 2034, according to its IPO prospectus.

distribution centre he leased

THG shares closed at 40p on Friday, down 95 per cent since the float, after soaring inflation and a slowdown in spending forced the troubled online retailer to slash its guidance. THG expects sales growth of 10-15 per cent and underlying earnings of between £100 million and £130 million. Net debt stood

at £226 million.

# Centrica wants output to soar

# Jon Yeomans

Britain should aim to become an exporter of energy by massively ramping up its production of wind, solar and nuclear power, according to Chris O'Shea, chief executive of Centrica, which owns British Gas.

O'Shea said the UK should not only look to shore up its energy security by creating more supply, but should be a seller to other countries. "We

need more electricity – more wind, more solar and more nuclear," he said. "It's in Centrica's long-term interest to make sure that we get to the point where we're not only self-sufficient, but where we are energy exporters."

The government is setting up a body called Great British Nuclear to co-ordinate decisions about power plants. O'Shea called for a strategy for "Great British Energy" with nuclear playing a key

part. "Nuclear forms a very good continuous baseload of zero-carbon electricity."

Centrica is willing to take an equity stake in the planned Sizewell C nuclear power station. It already owns a 20 per cent share in Britain's nuclear fleet.

With businesses worried about soaring energy bills from extreme gas prices, O'Shea said the government was working "at pace" to outline a potential cap for

firms' costs, expected to be unveiled this week. "It is a more complicated scheme to design [for businesses] than ...for residential," he added.

Centrica has proposed that ministers consider voluntary contracts with energy generators that would decouple electricity and gas prices to bring down costs for consumers.

The hunt for cash to fund new nuclear age, Page 7

# **Jill Treanor**

City veteran Edi Truell is considering launching a special purpose acquisition company (Spac) in London to snap up financial groups such as mutual insurer LV, Co-op Bank or TSB.

Truell, who founded the private equity firm Duke Street Capital, said he intended to have discussions with the London Stock Exchange about launching

the cash shell to focus on UKbased financial firms. Spacs seek acquisitions and then list on stock exchanges. In 2020, their popularity exploded and more than \$80 billion of investment vehicles were launched in America.

Tycoon weighs bids for banks

London was left behind in the frenzy, with some saying its regulatory approach deterred people. Truell picked Amsterdam to launch a Spac last year. Disruptive Capital Acquisition Company agreed a deal last week with Denmark's Saxo Bank to allow it to list in Amsterdam.

Truell, now based in Switzerland, said he had his sights on potential deals following the analysis his Amsterdam Spac had carried out. "We've immediately got 30 targets that we can think about acquiring or merging with," he said. "All these second division [financial] players need sorting out," he said without naming any

targets. Separately, he aims to list his specialist long-term asset fund this year after more than 12 months of talks with the Financial Conduct Authority. The fund, aimed at

investing in infrastructure, will list on the new specialist fund segment of the exchange where funds must maintain a 75 basis point per annum fee. "The aim is to harness pension fund savings to 'build back better'," he said.

# WHERE ARE THE WORKERS?

The number of Brits dropping out of the labour market is rising, and there are many reasons why, writes Anna Menin

# **PLANNING FOR FUTURE PAYS OFF**

● The number of Brits who are economically inactive — not in work and not looking for work — topped nine million in the three months to July, ONS figures showed last week. The UK's inactivity rate is at its highest since early 2017. More than 60 per cent of the rise has been driven by the exit from the job market of those aged 50 to 64 — 386,000 leaving since Covid hit. Billy Bryce, right, from Glasgow, retired last year after 30 years in motorcycle finance at Lloyds. Like many, the pandemic spurred Bryce to re-evaluate his priorities, and he decided to focus on caring for his mother - who has since died - and spending time with his children, aged 25, 9 and 6.

Bryce, 60, was careful to save as much as he could and said this "prudent planning" was the reason early retirement was an option. "I was fortunate, because I lived and breathed that banking world, which emphasised all that." He worries about the outlook for his children when they reach his age. "I'm not even sure if my children will get a basic pension."



# **TIME WORTH MORE THAN MONEY**

 It is widely expected that the cost of living crisis will drive many retirees who are less well off back into the workforce, but Diane Blackwell, right, wants to avoid that if she can. Blackwell, 57, took early retirement from London Underground in 2015 to care for her elderly parents.

"It's the best thing I ever did," she said. She and her partner own their home in southwest London outright. "We have enough money to cover the bills and the food and a little bit left over," she said.

Research from insurer Aviva last year found that two-thirds of early retirees were happier since leaving work, despite almost half reporting that their finances had taken a hit. "We are on a quarter of the income we were on before, but time is worth so much more. If I had a choice, I would never go back to full-time paid employment," said Blackwell.



# Riding in tandem to rescue the economy

he day after Kwasi Kwarteng was named chancellor, he tweeted a picture of himself with Andrew Bailey, the Bank of England's governor. It was significant. After a leadership campaign in which Liz Truss lambasted Bailey for allowing inflation to rise to five times above his 2 per cent target, it was time to be conciliatory. The pair looked jovial as Kwarteng declared that Bailey's independence in setting interest rates was "sacrosanct".

But the new chancellor made another important statement: he and the governor would "co-ordinate" the response to the cost of living crisis that is threatening the livelihoods of millions and risks driving the economy into recession. This week will provide the first glimpse of what that means in practice.

On Thursday, the Bank will raise interest rates by as much as threequarters of a percentage point to 2.5 per cent in the battle to tame inflation. On Friday, Kwarteng will deliver a minibudget – without the independent costings from the Office for Budget Responsibility craved by the City – that will pump £150 billion or so into the economy to help households and businesses tackle the energy crisis. He will also cut taxes, the centre-piece of Truss's ideology.

tandem will be a difficult balancing act and comes at a delicate time. The pound is under pressure on the foreign exchange markets: on Friday it marked the 30th anniversary of Black Wednesday, when the pound fell out of the European exchange rate mechanism, by hitting a 37-year low against the dollar.

catapult Britain onto his ambitious path towards 2.5 per cent annual growth could fuel inflation and force the Bank to raise rates even further. Meanwhile, Bailey's decision to embark on quantitative tightening (QT) to sell off the £895 billion of bonds – mainly government bonds, or gilts – bought through quantitative easing (QE) could make it harder for Kwarteng to issue gilts

Kwarteng's decision to abandon the bankers' bonus cap - an EU policy that has limited bonuses to two times salary – that might be the only easy win. A review of the Bank's mandate seems inevitable, as does a tussle over the relaxation of fiscal policy by Kwarteng and the tightening of monetary policy by Bailey. What might the two men be weighing up this week?

It's in state

hands, but

train firm still

can't keep up

The Northern rail franchise is now run

peers, however, it is cancelling services

by the government because of poor

performance. Like its private sector

# **KWARTENG'S AMBITION**

While the chancellor will deliver his statement 24 hours after the Bank's move on rates, the nine members of the monetary policy committee (MPC), which sets rates, will have a broad idea of what he intends to announce. These are the ideas that Kwarteng is likely to be considering:

# **ENERGY PRICE GUARANTEE** Cost: £160 billion — or more

**Pros:** Truss intervened to keep the average household energy bill at a maximum of £2,500 from October for the next two years. That will stop bills reaching £6,000 next year and allow inflation to peak at 10.5 per cent this year, rather than hitting 16.5 per cent in 2023 - a rate that might have been touched without government intervention – according to Simon French, chief economist at the investment bank Panmure Gordon.

Cons: The cost of the package is unclear – French has put it at £162 billion – and it is not targeted at the households that need it most.

Cons: There is little evidence cuts would immediately stimulate the economy.

# **BANKING SURCHARGE**

Gain: £4 billion over five years **Pros:** If bankers are going to be let off the bonus cap, it might be fair to stop the cut to the surcharge that banks pay on top of corporation tax from 8 per cent to 3 per cent. Tim Sarson at KPMG calculated that this could bring in £4 billion over five years. **Cons:** Banks might be deterred from boosting lending to business and

# INCOME TAX

Cost: £5 billion

Pros: Bringing forward the 1p in the pound cut to the basic rate of income tax promised by Sunak in 2024 – the time of the next election – would help cashstrapped households.

Cons: It could add fuel to the inflationary fire.

households during the crisis.

# **SUGAR TAX**

Pros: Ending the sugar tax would allow Truss to eradicate "nanny state" taxes

**Cons:** The tax was intended to change

**Pros:** In ruling out any new windfall tax on top of the £5 billion being raised through Sunak's 25 per cent levy on North Sea oil and gas producers, Truss might avoid any fears that companies

revenue. Even a tweak to the existing tax to end relief in investing in oil and gas extraction and putting up the tax to 45 per cent, could bring in £22 billion, said the New Economics Foundation think tank.

> London and Manchester from three to one an hour in mid-August. The disruption has also pushed up prices because so few advance

also part of First Group, followed suit on September 12, cutting 9 of its 40 daily services on the West Coast Mainline. Northern said services in

tickets are now available.

TransPennine Express,

and around the northwest including Manchester, the Cumbrian coast and the Lake District – had been affected by last-minute cancellations. Chris Jackson, regional

director at Northern, said: "This is due to a number of factors including higher levels of staff sickness and, of course, the ongoing and highprofile industrial relations issues with the trade unions, which have their own impact on our ability to operate a full timetable.

Although Grant Shapps, been affected. The new wave of chaos the former transport comes after Avanti - jointly secretary, blamed the owned by FirstGroup and disruption primarily on the Trenitalia – reduced the unions, it is embarrassing for number of trains between the DfT that one of its own

# **NEW LEASE OF** LIFE FOR ANGEL TRAINS

Sales and profits rose last year at leasing giant Angel Trains after it bagged a new contract to supply a fleet of Aventra trains to the rail operator Greater Anglia, writes Jon Yeomans.

Sales rose to £426 million in the year to December, from £391 million the year before. Profits leapt 64 per cent to

£135 million. Angel Trains paid a dividend of £30 million, although a spokesman said this money went to its holding company and not to shareholders.

The company is

majority-owned by Canadian pensions giant **PSP Investments. It was** previously owned by Royal Bank of Scotland, now NatWest, but was sold off in 2008. Angel Trains' annual accounts said it had struck new deals with train firms in the wake of the pandemic. All of its 4,000-odd trains are leased.



Staff shortages have forced Northern to cancel trains

operators has now become embroiled in problems that are not part of the rolling series of national rail strikes.

Shapps brought the franchise of the former operator, Arriva Northern, under the direct control of the DfT in March 2020 because of its underperformance.

Anne-Marie Trevelyan, who took over as transport secretary on September 6, has sought to reset relations with the unions. At a meeting on Wednesday, she told Mick Whelan, general secretary of the train drivers' union Aslef: "I am not my predecessor."

She is due to meet Mick Lynch, general secretary of the RMT transport union, this week and will also talk to Manuel Cortes, general secretary of the Transport

Salaried Staffs' Association Shapps declined to hold face-to-face meetings with the union leaders to resolve the national strikes over pay and conditions, which began on

June 21. The RMT and Aslef dropped plans for industrial

action on Thursday out of respect for the mourning period for the Queen, with the RMT also cancelling a second strike scheduled for yesterday. However, the train drivers are set to resume their strikes on Saturday, October 1 and Wednesday, October 5.

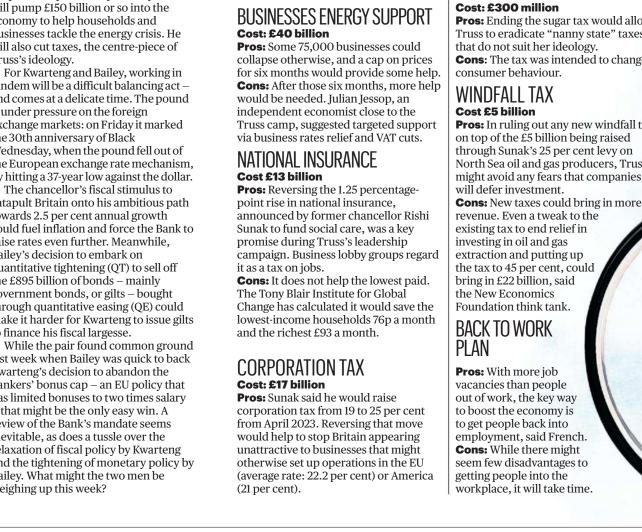
Rail operators have put reduced services down to drivers suddenly refusing to work overtime, but Whelan blames the firms for failing to recruit enough drivers.

Anthony Smith, chief executive of Transport Focus, the independent watchdog, said: "Clearly something's happened recently which seems to have made it worse

– whether it's the rest-day working, the training or the sickness levels. If Northern cannot run the timetable as advertised in a reliable way, it's better to look at running a reduced timetable that is more reliable."

passenger numbers on the railway have recovered to an average 86 per cent of prepandemic levels since the start of September.

According to DfT data,



Nicholas Hellen

Transport Editor

of staff shortages.

to argue against the

have called for.

A train operator run directly

Transport (DfT) has admitted

that it, too, is struggling to

operate a full timetable after

both Avanti West Coast and

TransPennine Express were

The problems at the

Northern rail franchise will

be seized upon by advocates

of private sector companies

nationalisations that many

Leeds, Hull and Newcastle,

challenges with the rostering

of our driver colleagues" for

disruption and short-notice

cancellations. It declined to

say how many services have

Liverpool, Manchester,

blamed "a high level of

sickness and ongoing

Northern, which connects

forced to cut services because

by the Department for

# to finance his fiscal largesse. While the pair found common ground last week when Bailey was quick to back

# LONG COVID TAKES A TOLL

• A key reason for a drop in the workforce is the jump in the number of people unable to work due to illness. An extra 352,000 people were out of work due to long-term sickness in the three months to July 2022, compared with pre-pandemic levels, ONS data showed. Victoria Boyling, 29, right, is among that number. The primary school teacher had been settling into a new job when she caught Covid in November 2020 – and didn't get better. Boyling is among the estimated two million people in the UK with long Covid, and has symptoms including extreme fatigue and shortness of breath.

"I loved my job, I was a bit of a workaholic," she said. After two attempts to return to work, Boyling was dismissed on the grounds of ill health in April. "It's terrifying. I'm not even 30 and I don't know when my next lot of income will be," she said.



# **CRIPPLING COST OF CHILDCARE**

e Emily Fishlock had planned to work part-time at her call centre job after maternity leave, while caring for her baby son the rest of the time. But the 24-year-old from Caerphilly, South Wales, found childcare fees would eat up any wage she could bring in.

Now, she cares for her 15-month-old full time, and is among the 1.7 million Brits who is economically inactive as they are looking after family or the home. "Why would I be working 25-plus hours a week just to pay someone else to look after him, when I can do that myself?" The charity Pregnant Then Screwed surveyed more than 11,500 people with children under five, with almost 60 per cent of respondents saying they, or a partner, reduced working hours due to childcare issues. A further 13 per cent had to leave work entirely. Fishman's partner, who works nights in a warehouse, is working 72-hour weeks to make ends meet.



# **ENJOYING STUDENT LIFE**

• A rise in the number of students has pushed the UK's inactivity rate higher. While the total of economically inactive students had been falling since mid-2021, it is up in recent months, and 271,000 higher than pre-pandemic levels.

Eva Vitale, 19, is going into her second year of a degree in Global Health and Social Medicine at King's College London. Exeter-born Vitale, right, said there have been times she has considered

leaving study to go into the workforce.

"I'm paying a lot of money [in fees], and I don't receive that much face time for what I'm paying. I could just go out and get a pretty decent job with a good career path right now, as everyone wants to hire." Despite this Vitale intends to continue studies, and work in public health after graduating.

Kwasi Kwarteng and Andrew Bailey have vowed to team up to get Britain out of trouble, but one wants to go for growth, the other to tame inflation. *Jill Treanor* asks if their policies can co-exist

# **BAILEY'S BATTLE**

The Bank of England's key job is to keep inflation at 2 per cent, but achieving that goal has proved impossible since the war in Ukraine pushed up energy prices. What might Bailey be looking at in his battle to get prices down?

# INFLATION

**Pros:** Data last week showed that the consumer prices index (CPI) measure of inflation had dipped back from 10.1 per cent in July to 9.9 per cent in August – the first fall in the headline rate since September 2021. This might be interpreted as showing that runaway prices are starting to be tamed.

**Cons:** Inflation is expected to rise again in October when energy bills go up – and, as Rob Wood at Bank of America pointed out, last week's data showed inflation in the services sector had risen to about 6 per cent. That shows inflation is not being driven only by energy bills.

# WAGES

**Pros:** Bailey has been urging the highest paid to avoid asking for a pay rise, and data last week showed that real wages, when taking account of the rate of inflation, were down 3 per cent in the last quarter.

**Cons:** Pay rose 5.4 per cent between

July 2021 and July 2022 and was even higher in the private sector at 6.4 per cent. "This at least means the cost of living crisis is not as bad as it could have been for private sector workers," said Tony Wilson, director at the Institute for Employment Studies. That might worry Bailey, though.

# **CONSUMER SPENDING**

**Pros:** Consumer confidence is waning. Retail sales in August showed the biggest drop in almost a year, falling 1.6 per cent on the month in an indication that households are unable to fuel inflation with their spending.

**Cons:** Consumer spending contributes almost two-thirds of gross domestic product, so any fall in spending risks driving the economy into recession.

# QUANTITATIVE TIGHTENING

**Pros:** The Bank should press on with its plan to start selling off the pile of bonds, mostly gilts, it still holds from QE. Jessop said this would signal that the Bank was focusing on inflation. "It's not the Bank's job to finance government borrowing," he argued.

Cons: Flooding the market with gilts could push up the price that investors demand to lend to the government. David Blanchflower, who was a member of the MPC for three years to 2009, also argued that now was not the time because the economy was slowing: "It's like saying. 'Someone is drowning – shall I put my foot on their head?'"



# BANK FACES NEW TARGETS

Given that the Bank of England has spectacularly missed its target to keep inflation at 2 per cent, it is perhaps no surprise that Liz Truss raised the idea of a review of the Bank's mandate during the leadership campaign, writes Jill Treanor.

While her words sparked concerns that she might consider stripping the Bank of its 25 years of independence in setting interest rates, her team has made it clear this is not her agenda.

Even so, a review of the mandate
— "a performance review" as Simon
French at Panmure Gordon puts it —
has sparked a range of ideas to
overhaul the way the Bank sets rates.
Ideas range from changing the
composition of the monetary policy
committee (MPC) to the way it
communicates with the public.

A formal review is not needed, however, to change some aspects of its responsibilities as the Bank of England Act 1998 requires the chancellor to specify each year how the government intends to define "price stability and the government's economic policy objectives".

The last time this was done, in October 2021, Rishi Sunak, chancellor at the time, reaffirmed the inflation target at 2 per cent and an aim to achieve "strong, sustainable and balanced growth".

As Kwasi Kwarteng, the new chancellor, has made clear his aim is to achieve annual growth of 2.5 per cent, he is likely to spell this out as a new goal for governor Andrew Bailey. That is more likely to take place in a

full budget later this year.
Some argue that there is scope to change the inflation target, too, from the current focus on the consumer price index (CPI) to CPIH, which

includes housing costs.

"This seems like a more realistic view of inflation and if [the MPC] had looked at this, this time last year, they'd have started to tighten [monetary policy] much more quickly," said David Marsh, chairman

of the central bank think tank Omfif.

Marsh said a broader review of the mandate could also look at changing the way the Bank communicates its interest rate decisions, currently led by the governor, to "let the chief economist speak more".

He also said that changes could be made to the appointments to the MPC, currently made up of nine members, four of which are external appointments by the chancellor. Marsh said this should be changed so there were "fewer Treasury people and more heavy-duty independent macro-economic specialists".

David Blanchflower, who sat on the MPC for three years, advocated changes to avoid "groupthink" with representatives from the devolved nations included. With economist Richard Murphy, Blanchflower outlined ideas for Treasury staff to be moved outside London to focus on regional and national economies. The Bank has already announced plans to set up a new hub in Leeds.

# Investment bankers brace for the 'riff' they don't want to hear

As Goldman Sachs gets set to cull jobs, *David Rothnie* asks who is likely to be next

Investment bankers do not know whether to laugh or cry. On the one hand, the new chancellor has been hinting that he will end their most detested bugbear: the EUenforced cap on their bonuses. But on the other, they face the potential prospect of a return of the annual job cull – a chilling prospect in stark contrast to last year, when their talents were being fought over by rival banks desperate to hire during the unprecedented bonanza from takeover deals.

As part of its annual plan to cut underperforming staff, Goldman Sachs is expected to fire hundreds of workers when they return on Tuesday. The cull is an integral part of the bank's "up or out" culture, which rewards the top performers with promotion, while clearing out those who fail to meet its exacting standards.

Goldman's chief executive, David Solomon, paused the revolving door during the pandemic but has reinstated it this year amid month after month of no big deals or stock market floats.

Those affected at the bank's glittering HQ on the fringes of the City have at least had a brief stay of execution – Goldman had been due to inform them of their fate last week, but the move was delayed due to the death of the Queen. "Now it's going to be this week when we find out who's getting riffed," said one Londonbased director at the bank. "Riffing" is short for

"reduction in force", a term used by US banks but now the sort of City jargon that is tossed around lightly – until it applies to you.

Goldman's annual cull normally affects between 1 and 5 per cent of its staff, and sources say that this year it will fall somewhere in the middle. By firing staff now, the bank will not have to pay their end-of-year bonuses.

Rivals across the City and Wall Street will be listening out on Tuesday for news of how many employees get axed. Why? Because Goldman is the industry bellwether with a reputation for leading the pack on the big calls – be it bonus payments, hiring or firing. And because the question now on bankers' lips is, which firm will be next?

"Everyone's talking about



Goldman Sachs, headed by chief exectuve and sometime DJ David Solomon, is expected to fire hundreds of staff when they return to work on Tuesday

job cuts but no one's really done it until now," said the head of investment banking at a rival firm in London.
"Goldman will gain a firstmover advantage because it's best to cut going into a recession ... Leave it too long and you risk cutting too late, just as the market recovers."

Investment banking

revenues at Goldman Sachs International, which houses its European business, fell 60 per cent in the first half of the year as it suffered far lower net revenues in equity underwriting. During the same period, the bank cut the pot it sets aside for the pay of its 3,800 bankers by 60 per cent to \$1 billion (£870 million).

While investment banks' trading divisions have made money on the back of volatile market swings, their corporate finance arms, which handle stock market floats and work on mergers



and acquisitions for corporate clients, have endured a slump in business as funding markets seize up due to rising interest rates. Fees from equity market

deals in the City have fallen by 82 per cent compared with a year ago, while there have been just 15 stock market listings against 90 floats in 2021, according to the data firm Refinitiv.

Last week, bank bosses took to the stage at a conference held by Barclays in New York, to deliver bleak outlooks. Daniel Pinto, head of corporate and investment banking at JP Morgan, said third-quarter earnings will fall by 45 to 50 per cent across its M&A and capital markets business. Mark Mason, Citi's finance director, was similarly downbeat.

But, so far, Goldman

remains the only big bank to have broken cover on cuts. Bank of America chief Brian Moynihan aid it will not follow Goldman's lead, telling Fox News that his firm "is fine with our headcount". Rivals have shed staff this year but not a scale that qualifies as "riffing".

Last week, Andy
Saperstein, co-president of
Morgan Stanley, said: "We
have no immediate plans for
lay-offs. We'll always tweak
along the way, but we feel
pretty good." The bank
recently trimmed "less than a
handful" of its London-based
research team, according to
sources.

All banks regularly monitor headcount because, with salaries having spiralled in recent years, redundancies are often the only option for controlling costs.

One UK banker said: "In any organisation, you have people who turn out to be not as good as you thought they would be. So banks can use the excuse of tough market conditions to riff [those] people."

In April, Japan's Nomura trimmed about ten positions in its investment banking unit in London. In the summer, Berenberg, which specialises in equity markets underwriting, cut 30 staff from its 500-strong London operation.

"It's more of a birdbath than a bloodbath," said one banking analyst.

Overall, banks are loath to push ahead with big cuts until a clearer picture emerges on the length of the downturn. "Things are on a knife edge," a banker at a US firm said. "If you cut jobs now, it's because you're right-sizing for 2023. But if activity rebounds towards the end of next year, you may be caught out."

But one City veteran pointed out that it only needs a bad set of results for the mood of banks to darken. And when it does, they can pursue the sort of swingeing cuts for which the City is known. A department head,  $who \, has \, overseen \, many \, job \,$ cuts, said it will be brutal: "Often we get handed a sheet with a number – 'You need to lose 10 per cent.' In that case, self-preservation kicks in and you have the unedifying sight of senior bankers saving themselves – and then climbing over the bodies of the people they've fired to get their share of the bonus pool."

Against that, banks are still trying to replenish their ranks after record levels of attrition in the pandemic, when junior staff left the sector in search of a better work-life balance. So rather than riffing in a tight labour market, some banks will control costs by not paying bonuses.

Speaking at Morgan

Stanley's results, chief executive James Gorman hinted this was the route that the bank takes: "The ultimate weapon when it comes to managing a slowdown is pay."

A banker at a rival firm agreed. "No one is expecting to get paid anywhere near last year, so reducing the bonus pool is a good way of controlling costs."

# Bali Padda

# Focus on the vital few things that can make a difference

hen tales are told of how heroic chief executives turn around the fortunes of ailing companies, the focus is nearly always on the genius new product or brilliant strategic pivot. The actual delivery of the goods – making the thing and getting

it to the customer on time – is just taken for granted. It shouldn't be.
In 2003-04 Lego was on the brink of collapse. I was hired as part of a team to save it from near bankruptcy. Demand for our toys was high, but we were

products, in the right volumes, and getting them to our big retail customers. Our innovation was great – every kid in the world wanted our new Bionicle action characters – but our execution was lousy. Parts missing, deliveries late, retailers angry. We had a growing reputation for being unreliable, and

simply not capable of making the right

when Walmart – the biggest retailer in the world – thinks you're unreliable, that's a bad place to be.

Bosses at the very top – the C-suite – felt that they should be focusing on big, strategic thinking, leaving others to focus on fulfilling customer orders.

This attitude means that, as well as not being involved in operational detail, the C-suite do not really understand it. It can mean they set unrealisable goals and scapegoat the wrong people when the organisation fails to deliver.

It segregates the "sexy" parts of management – innovation, strategy – and the "cost base" such as logistics and manufacturing, with the inaccurate assumption that the latter is not "value-adding". The reality is that the whole organisation has to be carefully choreographed, and they all add value – or don't in a folling business.

or don't, in a failing business. An effective organisational leadership team has an understanding of how all the specialist disciplines contribute; how they can effectively collaborate; and how the wider managerial team can work back from what the customer needs to understand how to deliver.

At Lego, I instituted a weekly performance briefing called the Visual Factory. It would take place early on a Friday morning, start punctually and last for no more than half an hour.

All the key department chiefs were there – supply chain, manufacturing, sales, marketing, finance. There were no chairs, no laptops and hence no Powerpoint presentations. There was a relentless focus on what needed to be done by next week, and by whom. We wrote the essential tasks on the wall.

While it was demanding, ultimately it alleviated stress because it saved time and ensured everyone knew what they were doing and had the time and resources to complete their tasks.

Everyone was accountable, which was



# We were great at packing boxes, yet unable to deliver the right goods

challenging, but fair. There was everyone in the room who needed to be, and no one who didn't. This made it an excellent decision-making forum. The only points of data on the wall were those critical to service delivery. We coined the term the "Vital Few" points of operational data.

Which brings me on to another problem I've seen so often in business.

Managers have a tendency to measure what is easy or convenient to measure, rather than what is really important.

When I arrived at Lego, I found they were measuring how many bricks were packed per hour – it was a key part of the bonus scheme. But we weren't measuring how many orders we were fulfilling. The result was, we were great at packing boxes, yet unable to deliver the right goods to the customer.

so we spent a lot of time and energy making sure we had the right Vital Few

metrics to improve those deliveries.

Data is not the same as fact. It is only useful to a business if it is: a) accurate, b) relevant and c) accessible. Two out of

three is not enough.
So here's a useful test for all
managers. Ask yourself honestly: have
you devoted as much time and attention
to the disciplines of data cleansing –
making sure you're measuring
accurately – and operational excellence,

as you did to specifying and ordering the automated IT system and designing the flow charts for its operation? If the answer is no, you are likely to be letting down your customers.

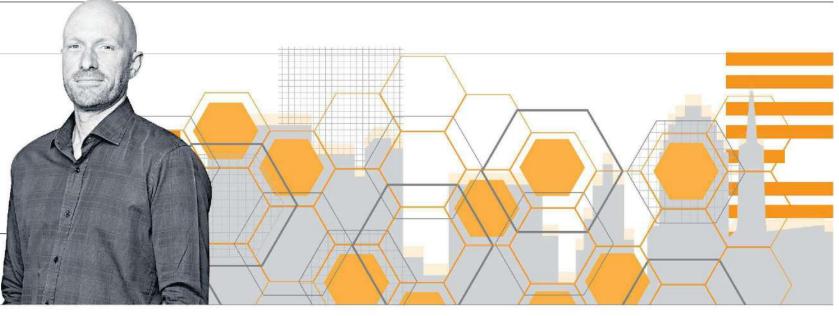
We called it the Vital Few. You could call it something else, but the name matters less than the binding principles: work back from what the customer needs, involve all disciplines, be fair to everyone while holding them to account and restrict your data to the key indicators that enable you to deliver.

As our execution improved, Lego quickly returned to growth, and I'm delighted to say it's now the most-loved, and most profitable toy company in the world

Bali Padda is a management adviser. He was chief operations officer for Lego 2004-16 and the first non-Danish CEO in the history of the company. Deliver What You Promise is published by Heligo Books

# TECHTALK

**DANNY FORTSON** IN SAN FRANCISCO



# Ghost offices haunt landlords

The latest 'big short' is commercial real estate, especially in San Francisco where vast buildings lie empty as staff embrace WFH

t used to be that the lunchtime session at The Tempest, a bar in San Francisco, was buzzing. "We'd have an hour-long wait just to get in," said Justin, a bearded bar tender in a baseball cap. "It's just so empty now. We're nowhere near where we were pre-pandemic."

The quiet is notable because across the street sits 415 Natoma, a 25-storey, 650,000 sq ft office building that mayor London Breed opened to great fanfare in March. Yet the gleaming block of glass and steel emanates a ghostly feel; its foyer is packed with art and plush leather seats – but no people, save for a bored attendant on the front desk. Brookfield, the Australian property giant that led the development, has reportedly snagged just a single tenant, Thumbtack, a site that matches handymen with jobs. Brookfield did not respond to a request for comment.

The stories of such "ghost buildings" are music to the ears of Daniel McNamara, founder of New York hedge fund Polpo Capital. The investor first came to prominence with a pre-pandemic bet against second-tier regional malls in America, reasoning that e-commerce meant they would collapse. Then Covid arrived, mall owners imploded and McNamara's "short" positions on bundles of loans known as commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS), with heavy mall exposure, made him a fortune.

Now he has found his next target: offices. His theory is that the remote-working revolution is about to obliterate the commercial real estate market, especially in cities with a high population of "knowledge workers" who need not be in an office to carry out their duties.

San Francisco – home of Uber, Twitter and many other big tech names – is his proving ground. "It's the worst office market in America," he said. "There is going to be a lot of pain." As with the malls, he has bet against the value of several CMBS bundles, this time choosing ones with heavy exposure to the west coast tech capital and other big US cities. McNamara is not alone in his view.

Marc Andreessen, the billionaire founder of venture firm Andreessen Horowitz, said this year that remote work was "potentially one of those things that, in a 100 years, people could look back and say, 'That was a real turning point for how society developed."

Landlords are not so sanguine. Before Covid, San Francisco office vacancies



**People know** they don't need their butts in seats five days a week. The

party is over

had fallen to just 4 per cent amid a redhot market for start-ups. Today they are at 24 per cent, an all-time record. That equates to 25 million sq ft of vacant space.

Britain is not immune. London, a city with ten times the population of San Francisco, is awash with 31 million sq ft of empty offices, the highest level in 15 years, according to the data firm CoStar. McNamara has not made any bets against British real estate; his focus is strictly America. Surely, though, others have?

For San Francisco, however, the vacancy rates do not capture the full picture. Big tech names such as Airbnb have put huge swathes of their own office space up for sub-leasing. Its chief executive, Brian Chesky, said that as of this month, its workers could "live and work

anywhere" He added: "I think this will become the predominant way that we all work ten years from now. This is where the world is going." Twitter, which employs thousands in the city, has embraced remote work "for ever".

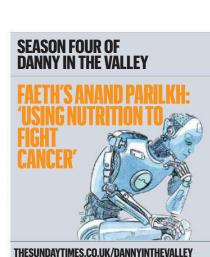
Such policy changes have exacerbated conditions for landlords desperately seeking to fill their buildings. Counting sub-lease offers, more than a third of office space is available in areas such as San Francisco's once-buzzing SoMa (South of Market) area, where The Tempest sits. Those levels are simply untenable for landlords. Duncan Logan, former chief executive of office-sharing start-up RocketSpace, said: "Anything more than 10 per cent vacancy is pretty terrible."

The Institute on Taxation and Eco-

nomic Policy has predicted that San Francisco commercial real estate values could plunge 43 per cent. City officials have begun to fret publicly about what the crash will mean for municipal finances.

But as with any big bet, the key is timing, and commercial leases are long typically ten years. Colin Yasukochi, of the Tech Insights Center at real estate firm CBRE, said a large proportion of leases expire in the next three years. This could trigger a bloodbath for landlords and their lenders. Yasukochi said: "Property owners realise we are not going back to where we were. The question is, will it come back 50 per cent, 80 per cent?"

McNamara said the dynamics are similar in other cities, such as Chicago and New York, and across industries. Indeed,



a divide has opened on Wall Street

between the likes of Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley, which are resolute about bringing people back to the office, and European rivals such as UBS and Société Générale, which hope a hybrid model will help them poach talent.

McNamara believes it is just dawning on people now that remote work is not one of those pandemic-era phenomenons that will fade as life returns to normal. The likes of Tesla, Google and Apple have all struggled to bring people back, while Airbnb, Twitter, Stripe and countless start-ups deploy remote-working options as a recruiting tool. "People are realising," said McNamara, "that they don't need their butts in seats five days a week, especially in software, which has been the engine of the San Francisco market for 20 years. The party is over."

Data from Kastle, a provider of building-access services, reveals that office attendance in San Francisco is just 38 per cent of what it was before Covid. San Jose, home to giants including Adobe and Cisco, is worse, with attendance at 34 per cent of pre-pandemic levels. According to Google's public mobility data from the past week, about 65 per cent of London office workers are back at their desks.

If this is the new world, it raises vexing questions for cities. Detroit turned into a hellscape of urban decay when the auto industry contracted and people fled.

Walk the streets of downtown San Francisco - with its tent cities, boarded-up stores and junkies shooting up in broad daylight - and the dangers are apparent. "San Francisco always finds its way back," said Tom Poser of Newmark, a commercial real estate firm. "But these days, it's pretty doom and gloom."

# No fingers on the button: advertising supremacy is over for the house that Zuck built

As you surf the internet, keep an eve out for a startling phenomenon. Facebook is disappearing.

To be more precise, the "Login with Facebook" button is disappearing. For nearly 15 years, the little blue button was there on the sites of shops, newspapers, streamers and dating services. It reduced the friction of buying or subscribing or enrolling for, well, virtually anything. Who wanted to fill yet another "sign in" page when, instead, you could just click the Facebook button and the social media giant would sign you in using the credentials it already held for you?

It was brilliant engineering from Mark Zuckerberg. By making life just that tiny bit easier, he got to see what you bought and where and for how much, then to feed that data back into his \$120 billiona-year ad machine. But after

years of scandal and privacy breaches, people stopped trusting Facebook. And so, in increasing numbers, they have begun opting for inconvenience, manually punching in details.

Companies have begun to respond, too. Nike, computer giant Dell, and Tinder-owner Match are among a growing roster of big companies that have quietly removed the Facebook login from their websites. Dell said this month

that customers were using it much less amid data security and privacy concerns.

This does not signal the death of Facebook or its parent company, Meta. Its apps, including Instagram and WhatsApp, are used by three billion people each month, and the company brought in \$118 billion (£103 billion) in ad sales last year – a 30 per cent rise. Yet when it reports earnings next month, another sales fall is

expected after revealing its first-ever drop in July.

Apple has exacerbated its woes. The iPhone maker launched a privacy push in the form of a new antitracking prompt that appears on its 1.8 billion devices when anyone opens an app, including Facebook and Instagram. Most people have opted out, starving the company of vital data. At the same time, Apple is building an ad business of its own,

allowing companies to buy space at the top of search results in its App Store. An ad executive told The Sunday Times this summer that there was "an audible sucking sound" of ad dollars out of Facebook into Apple.

Facebook has also raised ad prices. Meanwhile, the outcomes of those ads, such as resulting sales, have "deteriorated significantly," said retail consultant John Squire.

Those stumbles have opened the way for a deluge of new rivals. The biggest is Amazon, which last year brought in \$31 billion in sales of ads from companies paying to be at the top of product search results. Walmart, meanwhile, has quietly built a \$2 billion ad operation. But perhaps most worrying for Zuckerberg is that Reels – his short-form video feature aimed squarely at slowing TikTok, Facebook's fast-

growing rival – is not working. Internal data leaked to The Wall Street Journal showed that users spent ten times more time on TikTok than Reels.

TikTok is wildly popular with young people, and without the next generations to backfill its ageing core audience, Meta's primacy in the ad business will fade. Squire said: "Their strategic high ground is being eroded by multiple different players."

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# **BUSINESS**

# Leave us alone to treat pets. Diversity is barking

Dechra boss Ian Page came from humble beginnings in Rochdale and admits he is simply 'too old for a woke world'

# **INTERVIEW JIM ARMITAGE**

ou can forgive Ian Page for looking weary. After all, he's just pulled off two foreign takeovers for hundreds of millions of pounds apiece and delivered his 20th set of annual profits to the City. But that is not why the boss of FTSE 100 animal medicines giant Dechra Pharmaceuticals is a tad jaded. It's 8am when we meet, and the night before, he had been to see the Abba hologram concert at London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, spending rather too long top-

ping up his beer belly at the bar. 'It was beautiful," he says in his broad Rochdale accent, "but I might have overindulged a bit," he laughs, his chuckle morphing into a meaty cough thanks to too many cigarettes with all that ale.

In a world where company bosses sport gym-honed physiques and chiselled jaws, Page looks refreshingly normal for a 61-year-old Brit. You wouldn't look twice at him in the hotdog queue at his beloved Manchester City.

Proudly northern, a raconteur and with no formal education to his name, he is the ultimate self-made man. His views on modern City rules on diversity and suchlike are fruity to say the least.

He suffers from a condition that means he cannot write by hand, or at least, only in block capitals. So, school was a disaster and he dropped out at 16 with no qualifications, spending two years in a rented house in Rochdale with "a load of other drop-outs". Glamorous, it wasn't. "When somebody's dole cheque came in, we'd go to the pub, then we'd live off dry Weetabix til the next dole cheque arrived."

For his headmistress mother and creditcontroller father, it was a fretful time. "I'm from a really stable background - both loving, caring parents who were very, very worried about me.'

job as a van driver for a veterinary medicines distributor snapped him out of his teenage torpor. "I was always categorised as stupid but I always knew I was quite bright. As soon as I went to work, I suddenly realised I was interested in everything, and it was absolutely fascinating to me.'

The depot boss spotted his potential and moved him into the warehouse to help pick out customers' orders. In his downtime, he would open the packets and read the data sheets, learning what all the medicines were and what they did.

"Suddenly I found I had this encyclopaedic knowledge of every single drug we had," Page recalls.

He was rapidly promoted and, by his late twenties, he had jumped ship to a

Lloyds Chemists. Page and his team went on to complete a management buyout in 1997 and Dechra was born. They floated it on the stock market in 2000 with a value of £60 million. Today, about 30 acquisitions later, it is valued at £3.6 billion.

While he seems affable, Page can be ruthless: he led a boardroom putsch in the year of the listing, ousting the chief executive to take the job himself.

Dechra made £680 million last year in revenues selling medicines for pets and farm animals to vets. It manufactures about a third of them itself in factories across the world, including a main plant in Skipton, gateway to the picture postcard Yorkshire Dales. The rest are made by contract manufacturers.

Page has steered Dechra clear of the big-selling staples such as anti-tick and flea treatments but, if your pooch or moggie has ever had an operation, the chances are it was carried out with Dechra's prescription anaesthetics, antibiotics and painkillers.

echra had a good Covid. As families rushed to buy cats and dogs to be lockdown companions, so its sales and share price shot up. In its results this month, however, Page said the boom for pet spending was slowing to more normal levels. The markets got spooked and the shares fell. They have made a partial recovery but Page remains baffled: "We are a highly rated stock and people panic, don't they?"

He clearly enjoys meeting City investors - "Right then, whaddya wanna know?" is his typical opening gambit but is far from keen on the modern requirements in place for big stock market companies such as his.

Pet hates - excuse the pun - include the stipulation that non-executive directors have to quit after nine years to avoid becoming too cosy with management.

"It's a bloody stupid rule. We've had one of the most brilliant men on our board – Julian Heslop – who just had to retire because he's passed his nine years and he's classed as 'non-independent'."

Another Dechra non-executive, Ishbel Macpherson, is in the same boat. "She adds a lot of value - she's a City girl - and now she's got to step down. So we need to find another non-executive director and they've got to be black."

Uh-oh. Did he really say that last bit? He certainly did. His beef is with the [Sir John] Parker Review in 2017, which set a target that at least one director from a minority ethnic group should be on each FTSE 100 board by 2021.

Page says: "I'm too old to live in a woke world where minorities suddenly have the loudest voice. It drives me nuts.

'The Parker Review committee is made up of 14 people, of which, eight are black." [In fact, the eight are from black and other ethnic minority backgrounds.] UK in the first instance?"



# THE LIFE OF IAN PAGE

**VITAL STATISTICS** 

Born: March 29, 1961 Status: married to Zoe with three boys: David, Michael and Andrew School: Oulder Hill comprehensive, Rochdale

First job: lab assistant, then van Salary: £597,000, total pay last year £2 million "but

bonuses and LTIPs make up the majority, so it's rightly success based" Home: "modest" house between Bury and Rochdale Car: Mercedes-AMG GT 63 S with an electric version

recently put on order Favourite book: "I don't read many but just finished and enjoyed A Man Called

Ove by Fredrik Backman' Drink: beer Film: The Shawshank Redemption Music: "Flaming Lips, Gong, Pink Floyd, Radiohead of old — indie

recently" Gadget: Naim hi-fi Watch: Not wearing one Last holiday: Corfu Charity: National Secular

society What legacy would you like



to leave? "Having created a UK-based, world-leading ethical, sustainable animal health company" How would you sum yourself up? "Happy, especially when Man City

# **WORKING DAY**

"There is no such thing as a standard day — it could be

at the office, home or at one of our many facilities around the world. I prefer to start early, usually rising at 5.50am. A chief executive's role is not a job — it's a way of life.

"I have a great management team and that gives me a good work-life balance, although the first thing I do almost every day is check the emails on the phone to check what's gone on in Dechra locations in different time zones."

"A long walk in the hills around my home, with preferably a pub as the last stop. I also love Man City and have been a season ticket holder since 1976 — so

# **Democracy** doesn't work -but I can't think of anything better

JAMES SPEAKMAN FOR THE SUNDAY TIMES

stream of consciousness, how hard it will be to fill the role with a black candidate.

'Let's think about this for a moment: the black population of the UK is, what, 12 per cent, right?" [Actually, according to the 2011 Census, 13 per cent belong to a Black, Asian, Mixed or Other ethnic group.] Page claims that the industry has problems recruiting people of Muslim and Jewish faith because their principles around halal or kosher meat contradict veterinary practices on animal handling. This, he argues, reduces the pool of ethnic minority labour.

"So we are now positively discriminating to find somebody that might not be as good," he says. "It's completely

Barely pausing for breath, Page continues: "The culture at Dechra is fabulous. Our staff turnover is tiny. People like coming to work at Dechra. Then suddenly someone is coming along telling us we've got to change our culture because

His claims for the cheeriness of his staff seem justified. The Glassdoor website, where staff post reviews of their employers, scores the company four out of five and Page personally at 88 per cent. That may go higher if he succeeds in a plan to implement a four-day week.
Page sighs: "Look, it makes me sound

like a racist. Trust me, I'm not ... I've got friends who are gay, black. Live and let live. But someone telling me our culture has to change to tick a box is wrong."

lip-toeing away to safer ground, I steer us onto the prospect of a recession, and its likely impact on

"We are in the really fortunate position that nearly all our products are to treat sick animals. They're 'needs' rather than 'wants'. One of the last parts you'll be willing to sacrifice in a recession is your dog if it was sick, or your cat."

The longer-term trend is that more people, in more parts of the world, are falling in love with animals, leaving Dechra plenty of countries to push its portfolio of medicines into.

Its two recent acquisitions boosted its position in the fast-growing US market, but Page is also hunting farther afield for countries developing a new-found love of

"A horrible, but sadly true, example is South Korea," he says. "Ten years ago, dog was on the menu. Only two years ago, the last dog abattoir was shut down in Seoul. Now, it's one of the fastest-growing animal health markets for pets." Dechra has just opened up for business there.

Back at home, Page is not a great fan of the political class: "Democracy doesn't work but I can't think of anything better.' The government's claims to be address ing poverty of the north is just not working, he adds. He and his new wife, Zoe, who he met when she was Dechra's company secretary, regularly donate to the local food bank in the "shithole" (his word) of Rochdale.

"You just wanna weep. A lot of these people are really nice people - they're not scrotes, they're not scumbags, they've just got nothing. This levelling up is not happening at all, it's just nonsense."

ome, reading his views in this interview will come away thinking that Page has been hanging out with dinosaurs, not cats and dogs. Many will accuse him of dragging the business down with his opinions on boardroom diversity and governance. Just as many will doubtless be cheering

Whatever your view, after his bleak beginnings as a high school dropout, it is hard not to admire him for building a successful British champion employing nearly 2,000 people.

Mike Redmond, who served as Dechra's chairman for 13 years, agrees: "And you know what?" he says. "I think that lack of formal education is what makes him. It's what's given him that drive and determination to prove every

### "How the hell is that representative of the Ian Page's last holiday was to Corfu. He has ordered an electric Mercedes-AMG GT 63 S not a glory fan." Then he assesses, in something of a rival start-up that was later bought by

# **HOW I MADE IT DOMINIC PONNIAH** CO-FOUNDER OF CLEANOLOGY

**Hannah Prevett** Deputy editor, Times **Enterprise Network** 

ominic Ponniah thought he was on to a winner when he set up a motorised rickshaw business in his twenties. It was a European first, he claimed, and he was hailed in newspapers as an innovator.

This was 2002 – he had spotted the rickshaws on trips to India and Sri Lanka and saw their potential as a novel form of transport in the UK. But having invested "six

figures" in importing stock and getting Tuc Tuc up and running in Brighton, he could not overcome complicated licensing issues.

"I got lawyers on it and the advice was that the taxi lobby would do a judicial review and I'd need to be willing to spend at least £100,000 going to the High Court," he said. "By that point, I'd committed so much money, I was done."

The business ground to a halt in 2007, but fortunately, Ponniah had a plan B: to take the helm of Cleanology, a commercial cleaning firm he had set up with his mother, Elisabeth, in 2004. When he

became the boss, it had sales of £300,000 a year. The determination to prove

himself after his previous failure – and a six-figure debt to repay – focused Ponniah on growth. In 2021, Cleanology had sales of £12.8 million and a profit of £1.1 million and counts the Italian Embassy, the Four Seasons hotels group and several palaces as clients.

Born in London as the eldest of four children, Ponniah, now 43, drew early inspiration from his father, Darrell, who had moved to the UK from Sri Lanka with his family when he was eight. "They came with a few suitcases, arrived off the boat and went to live in a tiny house in Tottenham [north London]," said Ponniah. His father went on to have a successful corporate career before starting a shipping business in his forties



Dominic Ponniah set up Cleanology with his mother in 2004

That success meant his children could attend private schools. "They wanted us to have a better life," said Ponniah, who went to Rugby School and then Harrow. But he had little interest in lessons, and an unapproved tuck shop, launched when he was 11, provided an early runin with authority. He talked his teachers out of shutting it by turning it into a charitable enterprise. He later set up a recycling scheme. When studying for a

degree in geography and politics at the London School of Economics, he set up the Question Time Society -

named after the BBC politics show – and invited guests such as ex-London Mayor Ken Livingstone to take part.

Eager to start "making money," after he graduated, he went into rickshaws. Then, when Tuc Tuc hit a roadblock with licensing, he also started the London-based Cleanology. He put together a website and helped with marketing while his mother ran the day-to-day operations.

Cleanology took a back seat in 2006 and 2007 while he tried to overcome the problems at Tuc Tuc. A failed attempt to raise money from investors on Dragons' Den, aired in October 2007, with Peter Jones calling the rickshaw "a monstrosity". Ponniah shut the business.

"I was totally burnt out and wondering what to do next," he recalled, but he had the

family cleaning firm and he focused on this. "There was an opportunity to be a bit more cutting edge and a bit more contemporary."

Cleanology is an "ethical employer", paying staff the real living wage in a sector where this is uncommon. It uses eco-friendly, chemicalfree products and staff wear sustainable uniforms made from recycled plastic bottles and organic cotton. Last November, it took delivery of a new fleet of all-electric vans.

Before that, a tipping point came in 2016, when the firm had a £5 million turnover, as Ponniah hired its first nonexecutive director. "As an entrepreneur ... it is quite lonely at the top." Together, they set a goal of reaching sales of £10 million by 2020. The target was hit just before

Covid arrived in the UK. Then, almost overnight,

Cleanology went into free fall. "We had client after client phoning and emailing [to cancel]. It was non-stop. By the Friday [before the first lockdown], I thought I was going to burst into tears," said Ponniah. "A hotel with a contract worth half a million pounds a year phoned up and said, 'We're closing tonight don't send anyone.' "

Cleanology's revenues fell 60 per cent and it took a £250,000 coronavirus business interruption loan.

Since January 2021, with clients reopening, Cleanology has rebounded. "We've just had our best quarter ever." Asked for advice for

entrepreneurs, Ponniah, who lives in London with his wife and three children, said: "We got rid of a load of clients that were high maintenance and paid us late... we're much

more choosy now."

# **BUSINESS**

# Patagonia's founder gave the firm to charity. Now it's my job to make it work

Yvon Chouinard donated his empire to fight climate change. His chief executive explains to Sam Chambers what it means

hen Patagonia surpassed \$1 billion in annual sales, its founder, Yvon Chouinard, described it as the worst day of his life. After announcing he had given away the outdoor clothing company, the corporate iconoclast hailed last Wednesday as one of the best.

On a beautiful morning on the south Californian coast, the lifelong environmentalist, 83, took to a stage on the lawn outside Patagonia's headquarters and explained to 600 or so current and former employees that he and his family were transferring all their shares in the company to a newly formed environmental trust and non-profit organisation

The man charged with making the plan a success is Patagonia's chief executive Ryan Gellert. Speaking to the Sunday Times, he said: "To look at Yvon on the stage and to listen to him share what's most important to him – on a campus he built, surrounded by his people – was a really, really special moment. Yvon loves looking at the whole world going in one direction, and then very stubbornly and intentionally choosing to go in another."

Against the odds – and even, at times, Chouinard's own desires – Patagonia has mushroomed into a global brand-cumclimate activist valued at \$3 billion (£2.6 billion). As its gilets became a de facto uniform for bankers and Silicon Valley tech bros, Patagonia has funded conservation projects the world over.

Yvon, his wife Malinda and adult children Claire and Fletcher, wanted to accomplish two objectives in handing over the company: funnel more money to fighting climate change today, and preserve Patagonia's values and independence for the long term.

Gellert said: "When Yvon brought me into the conversation and said 'you have got to solve this' I was like 'Holy shit! I don't see how we do it?'"

The family irrevocably transferred their voting shares to the Patagonia Purpose Trust, a newly formed vehicle designed to guarantee that Patagonia stays true to its values of environmental and social responsibility.

The rest of their shares have been handed to the Holdfast Collective, a non-profit organisation that will channel all of Patagonia's profits – about \$100 million last year – into the fight against climate change.

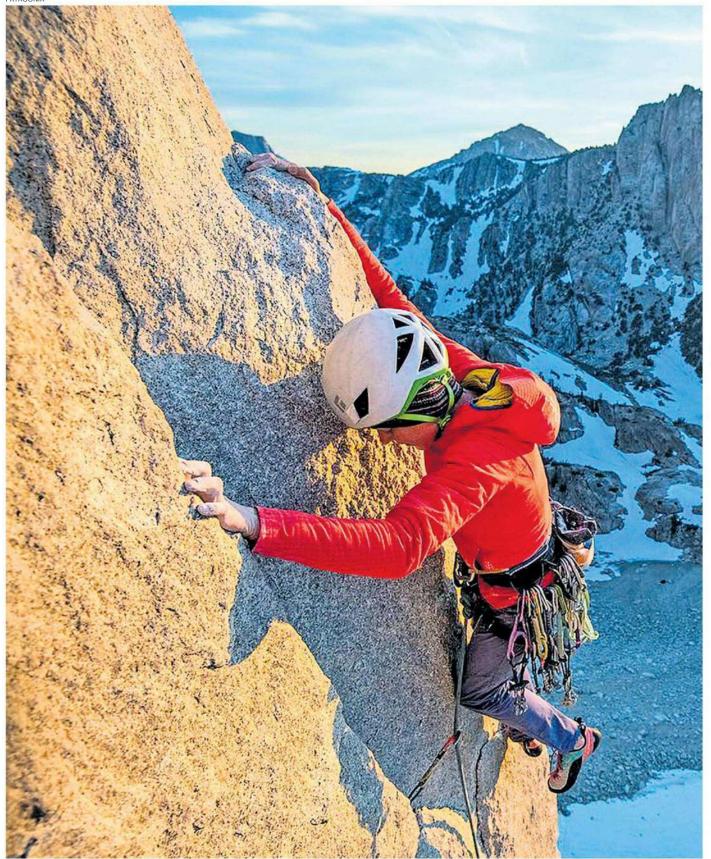
The plan only works if Patagonia keeps raking in the profits, and that is Gellert's role. Will the move make him more focused on delivering the goods?

"God, I don't know," he said. "I feel like I've been pretty all in on this thing for the whole eight years I've been here. But I understand what the stakes are.

"If you believe the climate and ecological crisis is real, if you believe it's largely man made, if you believe it's an existential threat to everything we hold dear, including our own ongoing existence, as I do, then you ask yourself: What the hell can we do about it? Governments are coming up short and I have no confidence that is going to change."

There may be more urgency in Patagonia's activism: "Giving away 100 million bucks a year takes a lot of energy but it is a drop in the bucket of the [overall] need. So we need to figure out how we can be catalytic: can we bring in other money? Can we bring in other people?"

In Gellert, a passionate rock climber and environmentalist, the Chouinards have a chief executive cut from the same (recycled) cloth as them. Ask him about corporate ethics and he responds: "The business sector loves to hide behind two faulty sentiments. One is this notion that the No 1 rule of business is to maximise shareholder wealth. And the other is that





the way you measure success ... is growth," he said. "If we continue on this path of business as usual, failing to bring a commitment and a level of imagination to solving these [environmental] problems, we know where it's going."

o what of Chouinard's legacy? Will he be remembered as the fool who lost billions giving away his company? Or as the trailblazer for a more altruistic generation of entrepreneurs?

Chouinard came of age in the Swinging Sixties, with a passion for outdoor sports and a deep disdain for big business. He began forging and selling pitons – spikes for climbers – to friends to subsidise his own trips up rock faces. When out in the wild, he would forage for food – going so far as to eat ground squirrel or even cat food, so long as it was mixed with oatmeal and potatoes.

By 1970, Chouinard Equipment was America's largest supplier of climbing hardware, but its founder realised that his creations were disfiguring the country's rock faces. He decided to stop selling pitons and developed aluminium chocks that could be wedged into rocks by hand.

On a winter climbing trip to Scotland, Chouinard bought a rugged Umbro rugby shirt and then started selling them back home, planting the first seeds of the "Patagonia" clothing range.

A firm that had started as a means to an end grew to a size that forced Chouinard to reluctantly accept life as a businessman – but he was determined to follow a different path to the "pasty-faced corpses in suits" he saw in airline magazines. Plenty of the initiatives that Patagonia embraced in the 1970s and 1980s, such as flexible working and an onsite kindergarten, proved ahead of their time – though most companies still do not encourage staff to walk round the office barefoot.

As he saw the environment being sacrificed at the altar of consumption, in 1986 Chouinard committed to donating 10 per cent of Patagonia's profit to grass-roots organisations — a pledge later augmented

to 1 per cent of sales.
Chouinard has, in effect, been trying to bring down capitalism from the inside – with





Patagonia's clothing ranges scaled the peaks, but for Yvon Chouinard, pictured below in 1992, that did not sit well with

his values. Now the

company sits with

chief executive

future of the

Rvan Gellert.

below left

mixed results. On Black Friday in 2011, it took out a full-page ad in The New York Times to raise awareness of the clothing industry's environmental footprint. The slogan "Don't Buy This Jacket" was printed above a picture of one of its best-sellers. Consumers, of course, did the exact opposite.

Gellert realised months ago that last week's announcement could trigger another Black Friday-style stampede.

But while traffic to Patagonia's website was up 300 per cent on Thursday and calls to its customer service centre went "through the roof", sales stayed at very healthy, rather than astronomic, levels.

Judging by the outpouring of adulation on social media, giving away Patagonia was a marketing masterstroke – but there have been critics, too.

By handing control of the company to a trust – rather than selling it, Chouinard evaded potential capital gains taxes of \$700 million. And because the business was not handed down to his children, he is not liable for the 40 per cent US estate and gift tax.

Was Chouinard's creative solution partly driven by a desire to exert greater control over how his wealth was distributed? "There was not a single time I had a conversation with Yvon or a family member about 'Hey, let's minimise our taxes,' said Gellert. "Or 'Wouldn't it be great if we could pull this [money] away from the government so we could do what we want to do with it?' It never happened."

houinard's children, Claire and Fletcher, who stand to lose the most financially, were instrumental in the decision. As well as both having seats on the board, Claire oversees product design and Fletcher designs surfboards in a spartan hut. They bear little resemblance to the billionaire brats in the TV drama *Succession*.

Gellert said: "The family's very tight ... Yvon knows his kids well enough to know they are not going to just grab the chance to have a billion-dollar business. There's a really strong sense of values that permeates the family. They live very simply — they drive old cars, they live in pretty simple homes." Claire and Fletcher, he said, embody the notion that "every billionaire is a policy failure".

Gellert is not expecting the Chouinards' example to be followed by a stampede of other entrepreneurs. Still, there has been a surge in the number of companies attaining "B Corp" status – a designation that recognises companies that meet high standards of environmental and social responsibility. UK-based companies make up almost a fifth of the more than 5,000 B Corps.

A handful of founders have followed

the "John Lewis model" of giving shares to staff. In 2018, Guy Singh-Watson gave more than three-quarters of his shares in veg box firm Riverford Organic. Julian Richer transferred 60 per cent of his shares in hi-fi retailer Richer Sounds, and last year, Rebecca and Tristram Mayhew handed over 90 per cent of their stake in adventure firm Go Ape.

German entrepreneurs Christian Kroll and Tim Schumacher put their shares in Ecosia – a search engine that uses profits to fund tree-planting projects – into a trust that made it impossible for them to sell their Ecosia shares at a profit, or to people who don't work for the business.

Chouinard hopes there will be plenty more examples like that, but at Patagonia, the onus is now on Gellert to pick up the ball and run with it. "Yvon has given all he had to give ... [the responsibility] now shifts onto my shoulders and all of us across the globe that work for Patagonia," Gellert said. "Sometimes I feel it [the pressure]. I cannot be the person to screw this up."



t is a blustery September day on the Suffolk coast. A heron takes flight over piles of dirt on a scratchy bit of wasteland. The future site of the Sizewell C nuclear power station is not much to look at, but one day it could be home to two new reactors powering six million homes.

Julia Pyke, Sizewell C's director for financial regulation, can picture the scene. She spent a decade helping get the Hinkley Point C plant off the ground. After many delays, that mega project of two reactors is now rising out of the Somerset countryside. "Having helped put together the case for Hinkley, I decided that the single most useful thing I could do for net zero was to get another nuclear power station built," she said.

Sizewell, owned by French energy giant EDF, is the next large power station in the queue to be built after Hinkley Point C. It is already home to the Sizewell B plant, at 27 years, the youngest of Britain's dwindling fleet of nuclear power stations; there are five left, all run by EDF.

Sizewell C will form part of a new strategy being fleshed out by Great British Nuclear, a body set up by Boris Johnson. Its design will be a copy of that at Hinkley, which should speed up delivery - but EDF reckons it will still cost £20 billion and take up to 12 years to build.

"It is, in effect, units three and four of Hinkley. We've done two, now look how much faster we can do these," Pyke said.

The government's goal, outlined in an energy security strategy earlier this year, is to generate 24GW of power from nuclear by 2050 - about double the peak capacity in 1994. Liz Truss appears willing to stick to such a goal, while talking up the prospects of small modular reactors (SMRs) built by Rolls-Royce. Yet the industry has a reputation for being costly, risky, and slow. Is there a chance of a new British nuclear age?

The sector's fans certainly believe so - and war in Ukraine, they argue, has changed the debate. Energy security is top of the agenda. And nuclear power does not produce carbon emissions and could help us reach net zero by 2050.

roadly speaking, our future options for nuclear are big and small. Big projects are difficult, saddled with cost overruns and delays. The government's own impact assessment states that a new plant could take 17 years to build and cost up to 100 per cent more than its price at the time it is green lit. SMRs are much cheaper, at about £2 billion per unit, and can be built in a factory setting before final assembly on site. But they are untested. Rolls-Royce's design is going through a four-year assessment.

Sizewell C will be built under a new model called the regulated asset base (Rab), which would pile upfront costs on consumers. In return, it could be more enticing to investors because it releases revenue in chunks. This would help raise the vast sums needed. Richard Nourse, founder of Greencoat Capital, which is weighing a nuclear fund, said: "Rab is attractive to financial institutions. It's a good way in to a long-dated, inflationlinked, secure income. It's got similarities with how the UK funded wind farms.'

EDF and the taxpayer are expected to take 20 per cent stakes each, with the balance to be found elsewhere. A large portion of funding would come from debt.

EDF's commitment after Sizewell is unclear. The company was 85 per cent owned by the French state, and President Macron is now pursuing a full nationalisation. He wants it to build six nuclear power stations in France, while it is also carrying out an expensive upgrade of its 56 existing plants. Meanwhile, its European Pressure Reactor (EPR) design – to be used at Hinkley and Sizewell – has hit

teething problems in other countries. Who else could build big plants in Britain if EDF were to bow out?

US giant Westinghouse, owned by Brookfield, the Canadian private equity giant makes the AP1000 reactor, which passed UK assessment. Under former



# The hunt for cash to fund Britain's new nuclear age

Attempts to build new atomic power stations have failed over costs and politics. Will we ever succeed, asks *Jon Yeomans* 



Hinkley Point C, under construction near Bridgwater, Somerset, is a seen as pilot for more nuclear power stations

owner Toshiba it was behind plans for a new plant in Cumbria, since scrapped.

Hitachi-GE is another option, but may be reluctant to return to the UK after writing off £2 billion in a stalled bid to build a plant at Wylfa on Anglesey.

Korean company Kepco has built a plant in the United Arab Emirates, but its design may need extra safety features to gain approval in Europe. Chinese company CGN is involved in Sizewell but is likely to be bought out. Great British Nuclear could

prevent a repeat of the Wylfa and Cumbria farragoes by offering a joined-up approach to financing and commissioning. It is being led by Simon Bowen, a former Babcock executive, who has handed in an initial report to the prime minister. Should Truss accept its proposals, the body may begin to take shape next year.

reat British Nuclear's recommendations are not known, but insiders say that to hit the 24GW target, it will recommend a mixture of larger projects and SMRs. "You can't treat nuclear power stations as individual little projects like PFI hospitals, you've got to treat them like building a fleet of warships," said one source. This might mean encouraging a number of suppliers, to avoid having all our eggs in one basket.

Great British Nuclear's role is also likely to include the reform of planning rules to

speed through approval of nuclear sites. "The discussions around GBN has been about the barriers to development and how to best address them," said Tom Greatrex, chief executive of the Nuclear Industry Association.

The "Britishness" of the UK's nuclear fleet is questionable, reliant as it is on a French owner-operator and the kindness of strangers to fund and build new plants. Rolls-Royce's proposed SMRs might redress that. SMRs would generate about a third of the energy of one of Hinkley's

reactors and would boast British intellectual property. It could even open up an export market should ministers commit to ordering the first batch.

Paul Stein, chairman of the Rolls-Royce SMR consortium, described its bid as an "indigenous solution" to Britain's energy needs. "It will not only help our energy security situation, but also reindustrialise large areas of the UK," he said.

Nothing in nuclear is straightforward. Large or small, developers will have to fight over a limited number of sites. The energy security strategy identified eight locations, all the sites of previous plants. But experts have warned some sites are at risk of flooding from rising sea levels.

Nuclear proponents champion its ability to deliver "baseload" power for when renewable energy falters. But others argue that wind and solar are cheaper. A study published by Oxford University last week said the rapid rollout of green energy could save trillions, while instead of enjoying the "exponentially decreasing costs" of renewables, nuclear has grown more expensive over time.

n Suffolk, vellow signs along the roads declare "there's still time to stop Sizewell C!". Alison Downes of the Stop C Sizewell C campaign group said: "All the construction delays and overspends on other EPR projects give us serious grounds for concern." Downes also objected to the disruption and its impact on the environment. Not all locals agree: Stuart Rimmer, chief executive of East Coast College in Lowestoft, said it was "an opportunity to create the highskilled, high paid jobs that our students very much need"

Pyke is in no doubt that investors will ultimately sign on for big nuclear as a "safe home" for their money because it offers steady returns. She added: "Nuclear is going to be part of the UK's energy mix. It's great for carbon neutrality, it's great for levelling up."

# **France** struggles to keep lights on

Europe's energy crisis can hardly have come at a worse time for France, writes Jon Yeomans.

For so long a net exporter of energy, France has been forced to go cap-in-hand to neighbours such as Germany for help – largely because of widespread outages at its fleet of nuclear reactors.

More than half of France's 56 nuclear reactors are offline due to issues around corrosion. That has left their owner, EDF, struggling to generate enough electricity to meet the nation's needs. Last week it warned it would take a €29 billion hit as production from nuclear power dipped to a 30-year low.

EDF has indicated it wants to get its reactors back online by the winter, but the problems have raised fears not just for France's energy supply, but the UK, which typically imports a chunk of its energy via undersea cables called interconnectors.

Last year, 54 per cent of the UK's electricity imports came from France - which was, until recently, a reliable source of low-cost power.

France built most of its nuclear fleet in a grand flurry from the 1970s onwards. The problems today stem from reactors simply growing old, according to Dr Mike Bluck, director of the Centre for Nuclear Engineering at Imperial College London.

'They've been successfully and reliably providing lowcarbon electricity all this time," he said. "If I bought a car and it ran for 20 years, and I looked at it and said, 'look, it's not starting', I wouldn't choose not to have a car. It's just the car's old."

EDF, already facing a bill north of €50 billion to fund the so-called Grand Carénage programme to enhance reactor safety and extend the life of its nuclear plants, is under pressure to deliver.

Last week, Paris said it would switch off the lights on the Eiffel Tower early each night to save money, imperilling its reputation as the "city of light".



are to be turned off early

# Left in the dark by the government, firms take energy saving into their own hands

From changing shift patterns to buying more efficient kit, here's how bosses are trying to cut the power they use

# Jon Yeomans

Jamie Langrish is dreading his next energy bill. Desperately trying to save money at the three pubs he runs in northwest England, last month he closed the kitchen at the Bakers Vaults in Stockport because his bill had leapt from £16,000 a year to £46,000. He simply could not make enough money from serving food to cover the difference. "It's a horrible calculation, but there's just no point in keeping it open," he said.

Langrish is just one of thousands of business owners worried about soaring costs. This week, the government is expected to put flesh on the bones of its plan to help firms survive a winter of huge energy bills. That may take the form of a cap on prices similar to the support already announced for households from October, or a discount on energy rates. It will last for six months, and then be reviewed to decide which sectors still need help. But it may not kick in until November, with payments being backdated to October.

The wait for details is tortuous for firms wondering whether they can afford to keep the lights on. Many are already taking matters into their own hands to shave costs where possible.

From launderettes to precision tool makers, companies are ticking off their own checklist of emergency measures.



### LIGHTS OUT Perhaps wary of stoking blackout fears, the government has

been reluctant to talk about lowering energy consumption – unlike in Germany, where firms have been warned that their power might be cut.

Nonetheless, it is sensible to examine every bit of energy use. Langrish, for example, has changed his back-office lightbulbs to energy-saving LEDs. And he is not switching on his front-of-house lights until a minute before opening time. "It works OK for now," he said, "because we've got natural light from the windows. But come winter, that's not going to be so easy to do.'

Chris Rea, managing director of Rotherham-based seal maker Aesseal, knocked thousands of pounds off his energy bills by installing a voltage optimiser that reduced the amount of electricity his factories took from the grid to better match the voltage of his appliances. He recommends other firms "do the little things – make sure you have the LED lights, work out what will give you a return on investment".



# CHILL DOWN THE OFFICE

The International Energy Agency recommended earlier this year that

households across Europe turn down their thermostats by 1C to conserve gas. The same principle applies at work. The Broadway Initiative, a project promoting sustainability that is backed by trade bodies such as the CBI, recommends a temperature no warmer than 19C in offices. It also proposes that workplaces adopt a "dead band", so the heating shuts off at 20C and air conditioners start at 24C.

# SORT OUT YOUR BILLS

Firms must understand their energy contracts, as many expire in

October. For households, the government has proposed a price cap of 34p per kilowatt hour (kWh). For companies, that may be higher perhaps about 40p – but still below the 80p per kWh that some energy companies are charging.

Stephen Cross at energy broker Brownlow Utilities said he was advising smaller firms to move to a floating-rate tariff when their contracts expire, so they are not committing to buying a certain volume of energy at a fixed price. Previously, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) were better off fixing their prices – but now such deals are few and far between, and usually require a big deposit. "For the first time, we've been getting smaller clients flexible agreements, which they can use until hopefully the market has calmed down,"



# SOLAR

The energy crisis has inspired a boom in solar panels in the commercial sector, according to trade

body Solar Energy UK, which reported that the number installed during the first half of this year was almost double the amount for the same period last year. Aesseal is installing 2,300 solar panels

and has even replaced the roof of one of its facilities to strengthen it to bear panels and to add insulation. Rea reckoned this would save £630,000 a year in energy costs. Heading into winter may not be the

ideal time to install solar panels, but it may help firms that have "hedged" or fixed their prices until early next year, and face a cliff edge in the spring.



# **GET SMART** Matthew Farrow at the

**Broadway Initiative** said firms should find out where their costs lie. "Understanding your consumption is really important,"

he explained. "SMEs need to know what is it about their business that is using the most electricity or gas." This could entail using a smart meter or a sub meter, which measures consumption on an individual appliance.

The Broadway Initiative is trying to pool cross-industry and sector-specific advice in one place on its Zero Carbon Business website. "Firms need advice

that is both centralised and credible enough that they can trust it and easily find it," Farrow added.



# MAINTENANCE AND INSULATION

Out-of-date equipment can be a drain on a firm's energy resources, so maintaining it and

insulating premises could make incremental improvements to bills. Mark Derry, executive chairman of Brasserie Bar Co, said that as an alternative to using refrigerators, his restaurant group was looking at specialist wine chillers that cool wine in two minutes. He may also try replacing gas hot-tops in the kitchens with induction hobs, as well as installing solar panels and heat-recovery systems to use heat from the cookers for central heating in the winter

Derry said: "We're desperately trying to reduce our energy usage – perhaps we can cut 10 per cent, maybe even 20 per cent. But the prices are going up 500 per cent. That's how serious this situation is."

Tackling refrigeration costs can help cut energy bills, with Zero Carbon Business recommending keeping fridges no more than 75 per cent full, repairing door seals and clearing them of frost.

Chris Young, of Derbyshire parts maker Labone, said he was looking at upgrading the energy-intensive moulding machines used by the firm to keep costs down. But he acknowledged: "That requires cash. There's a limit to

how much investment you can make based on future payback when you're already sitting on additional outgoings.'



# **CUT HOURS**

A more drastic option is to cut output or, where possible, change working patterns to avoid the

peak hours of 4pm to 8pm, when electricity prices are highest.

Charlotte Childs, national officer for manufacturing at the GMB union, said a number of firms were dropping from three shifts a day to two, totalling 16 instead of 24 hours, to save on energy although workers were being kept on full pay. "Some small and medium-sized manufacturers are dropping shifts and will look to make up production at a later date," she said Langrish, in Stockport, is considering

closing on quieter days of the week in January and February, which are always tough months for pubs. He said there was a limit to the price rises he could push through to customers who will be struggling to pay their own bills. "We've put a winter plan in place, but we need to wait to see how much help we're going get," he said.

Like others, he is hoping that the government does not drag its heels in detailing support. "It's just exhausting to think we just went through the pandemic," he added. "There's no way we're going to make any profit at the moment. We're just hanging in there."

# **BUSINESS**

# After years of breakneck growth, are we reaching Peak Aldi and Lidl?

In the cost of living crisis the discounters are surging, but suitable sites for new shops are hard to find. By Sam Chambers

n the spring of 1990, an austere and unfamiliar supermarket opened its doors to little fanfare in a leafy Birmingham suburb. Its owners did not bother with any advertising they knew their rock-bottom prices would cause enough of a stir. Shoppers at the new Aldi in Solihull could buy a bottle of wine, tin of Quality Street, a box of cornflakes, a tub of margarine and four pints of milk for less than a fiver

Thirty-two years, 970 supermarkets and an awful lot of "special buys" later, the German discounter has muscled its way into the top tier of the UK's £217 billion grocery industry.

With sales booming amid the cost of living crisis, Aldi has leapfrogged Morrisons to become the UK's fourth-largest supermarket chain with a 9.3 per cent share of the sector – a symbolic moment capping a decade of disruption. The concept of the "big four" - Tesco, Sainsbury's, Asda and Morrisons – has been consigned to the history books.

Aldi and its German rival Lidl have each been opening 50 stores a year. Their metronomic expansion has been deeply painful for the incumbents, squeezing profit margins and forcing them to close deli counters and axe thousands of staff to fund the price cuts needed to compete.

Now, though, a shortage of suitable properties is slowing Aldi's aggressive store-opening programme and raising a question: are we finally nearing peak dis-

The "big four" entered the lexicon when Morrisons bought Safeway in 2004. Back then, Aldi and Lidl were nothing more than a minor inconvenience to the big supermarkets, which were preoccupied with their own race for space.

The discounters became far more of a nuisance in the recession that followed the financial crisis of 2008-9. As Tesco et al opted to protect their fat profit margins rather than keep prices low, they drove hard-pressed shoppers into the welcoming arms of Aldi and Lidl – and many liked what they found.

The Germans helped usher in a change of mindset in which bargain hunting became virtuous. The middle classes were won over with £5 lobsters and Châteauneuf-du-Pape for a tenner. Mercedes cars in Aldi's car parks became so commonplace as to be almost clichéd.

When Lidl signed a deal in 2015 to sponsor the England football team, no one seemed to care that Germans were bankrolling the Three Lions - a testament to the cultural acceptance of the discounters. Perhaps the biggest compliment now is that most of the ads run by Tesco and Sainsbury's boast of how they

are as cheap as Aldi on certain groceries. Indeed, when times get tough, the discounters are customers' first port of call. Sales rose at Aldi and Lidl by 18.7 per cent

and 20.9 per cent respectively in the 12 weeks to September 4, according to

researcher Kantar Worldpanel. Lidl's faster growth partly reflects a slowdown in Aldi's store openings. In 2018, Aldi's UK boss, Giles Hurley, boasted that the grocer would "smash' its target of 1,000 stores by 2022 - but today it has about 970 outlets in the UK after managing to open only about 80 over the past two years. Hurley and his team will need to open more than 70 a year to hit their target of 1,200 stores by the end of 2025.

The next 200 stores will undoubtedly be the hardest to find," said John Witherell, who heads supermarket leasing at property agency CBRE. He expects Aldi and Lidl's expansion to slow from 50 stores a year to between 30 and 40. A source close to Aldi said it was opening one a week on average and remained committed to its target.

In terms of new sites, the low-hanging fruit has long gone. Both Aldi and Lidl prefer to buy freehold out-of-town sites with enough room for a 20,000 sq ft supermarket and dozens of car-parking spaces. In city suburbs, they bought shuttered tyre and exhaust centres, bulldozed them and built supermarkets in

When the likes of BHS, Argos and Homebase vacated hundreds of outlets, the discounters gobbled up the empty stores - particularly on retail parks, which had the added benefits of easy access and free car parking.

Those opportunities are drying up. In retail parks, an unexpected revival has reduced the vacancy rate to 6.8 per cent - its lowest level for more than four years, according to property researcher Trevor Wood Associates

eanwhile, the UK's abundant provision of supermarkets means Aldi and Lidl's fresh openings are now eating into their own sales as well as those of their rivals. About a third of the stores launched by the discounters in the past three years have been within three miles of one of their own supermarkets, according to data

In fairness, that is often because the original stores are swamped. Take the high street in Walthamstow, east London. The queues at the checkouts of a tired branch of Lidl were so long that the retailer opened another supermarket only a five-minute walk along the same street. Even though the new store does not even have street-level access, let alone parking, it still does a brisk trade.

In April, Lidl gave a glimpse of the difficulties it faces in finding new sites. Now led in the UK by company lifer Ryan McDonnell, it announced that anyone who located a suitable site would receive either 1.5 per cent of the freehold price,



There is no doubt they will continue to grow. The pace will just be slower

or 10 per cent of the first year's rent - typically totalling tens of thousands of pounds. In truth, both Aldi and Lidl already had incentive schemes for members of the public - nicknamed "garden shed agents" in property circles – who managed to find new sites. A source close to Lidl said that after issuing the call to arms, the company was inundated with suggestions for "wildly unsuitable" sites.

"Aldi and Lidl are definitely finding it harder," said Ben Green at Atrato, adviser to the real estate investment trust Supermarket Income REIT. "Because they have been publicising how eager they are to expand, all the land development agents

got in ahead of them [for sites]. They bought up the sort of land Aldi and Lidl wanted so that they could run an aggressive bidding process [for it]".

The discounters are having to compromise to carry on expanding – particularly in London, where they have been losing out to warehouse developers desperate

Johnny Rowland of estate agency Savills, who has extensive experience sourcing sites for supermarkets, said the discounters are now targeting commercial units on the ground floor of new residential developments.

The supply squeeze means branches

Aldi and Lidl have long been on the march across Britain, but how much ground can they still devour on the expansion trail?

of Aldi and Lidl are increasingly popping up in shopping centres and on high streets, too. But former Lidl UK boss Ronny Gottschlich said smaller-format

stores pose challenges to the discounters' precisely honed operating models. Some, for example, can be supplied only by smaller trucks, which can necessitate multiple trips. Aldi charges more for certain products in its smaller stores to help offset higher operating costs.

While the cost of living crisis has done wonders for the discounters' sales, cost inflation threatens to wipe out their margins, which are slimmer than those at a traditional supermarket. Aldi made an operating margin of 2.1 per cent on sales of £13.5 billion in its last financial year, while Lidl eked out a margin of just 0.6 per cent on sales of £7.7 billion.

Meanwhile, petrol stations have now become a powerful weapon in the incumbents' war against the discounters, which do not operate forecourts of their own. Tesco, Sainsbury's, Asda and Morrisons have generated extra profits hiking prices on fuel, giving them a greater ability to keep a lid on price rises at the shelf edge.

■he pressure appears to be telling. Research by analytics firm Ascential shows that Aldi has been hiking prices on supermarket staples more aggressively than rivals over the past 12 months. For example, butters and spreads are up an average of 56p, versus 44p at competitors, and milk is up by 30p against 17p at rivals. Even after those price rises, though, Aldi remains cheaper.

Still, the discounters are both vast private businesses that take a long-term view. They enjoy their greatest successes in relatively high-wage economies, such as the UK, where their model of employing fewer workers gives them a greater competitive advantage. And business failures in the coming months could create some vacant shops for them to move into.

Mirko Warschun, leader of consultant Kearney's European retail practice, said Aldi and Lidl still had plenty of scope to expand. According to Kearney, which calculates market share differently to Kantar, discounters make up 13.1 per cent of the UK market, against 31.3 per cent in Germany and 28.6 per cent in Spain.

Grocery executives once saw the discounters topping out at 15 per cent, but an informal consensus is settling at between 20 and 25 per cent of market share. "There is no doubt they will continue to grow," said Green at Atrato. "The pace will just be slower." After the pasting taken by the old big four over the past decade, they can probably live with that.

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# **GROCERY STORE MARKET SHARE**

26.9% 14.6% 14.1% 9.3% 9.1% 7.1% Sainsbury's TESCO ASDA **Morrisons** 

# **APPOINTMENTS**



# NON-JUDICIAL MEMBERS HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE REDRESS BOARD

The HIA Inquiry Report (Hart Report) was published on 20 January 2017. One of the substantial and overarching recommendations made relates to the establishment of a Redress Board to consider entitlement to compensation for children who were resident in certain institutions in Northern Ireland. The detail around the responsibilities of the Redress Board make it clear that applications for compensation will be determined on behalf of the Redress Board by a panel consisting of one judicial and two non-judicial members.

As these posts are for non-judicial members, those who are legally qualified or have worked in any institution within the Terms of Reference of the Inquiry into Historical Institutional Childhood Abuse between 1922 and 1995 inclusive are

In order to apply you must have a professional qualification in health and social care and/or experience in the delivery of services in trauma-related services. Eligible candidates must also have experience of working with and understanding of the concerns and needs of victims and survivors of historical childhood abuse along with skills in the following areas: effective communications: collaborating and influencing and assessing information, analytical thinking and effective decision making on challenging issues.

A daily rate of £435,00 will be paid in respect of each panel sitting, at which up to 4 applications for redress will be considered. Subject to the workload of the Redress Board, panel members are expected to be available to sit a minimum of six days each calendar month. Redress Board members are appointed for a period of up to 5 years.

We are committed to providing equality of opportunity and welcome applications from all suitably qualified people irrespective of gender, age, marital status, disability, religious belief, ethnic origin, political origin, sexual orientation or whether or not you have dependents. Applications are also welcome from individuals irrespective of gender identity, including those who are undergoing or have undergone

We particularly welcome applications from women, people with a disability, young people and those from ethnic minorities, as these are currently under-represented on public bodies. Reasonable adjustments will be made to accommodate the needs of applicants with a disability and the principles of the Guaranteed Interview Scheme will be applied for such applicants

# Further information and application form:

For more detailed information and how to apply, please go to www.nicsrecruitment.org.uk

# Alternatively, an application pack can be requested by contacting:

HRConnect, PO Box 1089, 2nd Floor, Beacon House, 27 Clarendon Road, Belfast, BT1 9BG, Telephone: 0800 1 300 330. Email: recruitment@hrconnect.nigov.net All requests must include your name, address and reference number IRC267680. Candidate Information Packs and Application Forms may be provided in alternative

formats by contacting HR Connect. Applicants invited for interview will not be eligible

for re-imbursement of travelling expenses CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2022. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

# **Jim Armitage**

# Let's unleash the City to invest in vital projects - but do it with care

emember "equivalence"? Three prime ministers ago, as the country wrestled with what Brexit actually meant, British negotiators were desperately hoping to get a deal with Brussels that would let the City's banks operate broadly as before with continental clients.

Equivalence was the term that meant: if we on this side of the Channel replicate your rules in Europe, you will let us operate in your countries as before.

But as the two sides scrapped over the Northern Ireland Protocol, Brussels became increasingly unlikely to do anything that would help the City thrive.

Rishi Sunak and Boris Johnson seemed to hold out hope for some sort of equivalence deal and - on financial services at least – kept playing nice.

But Liz Truss and Kwasi Kwarteng have clearly, and rightly, calculated that it's dead. This week, they will be sticking up two fingers to Brussels by binning the European cap on bankers' bonuses and, we suspect, the EU rules that restrict how much pension funds can invest in infrastructure and other projects.

The bonus cap was always one of Europe's dimmer regulations. Sold as a punishment for miscreant bankers after the global financial crisis, restricting City boys' and girls' bonuses ended up perversely rewarding them.

Why? Because the banks simply replaced performance-related bonuses with massive fixed payments, made whether the banker performed well or

A coaster's charter.

The people it really annoyed were the regulators at the Bank of England, who worried that banks had less flexibility to cut their wage bills in lean years, threatening their financial stability.

Anyway, getting rid of it sends a clear message to the world that the new regime in Downing Street is "unashamedly pro-growth".

Tough on red tape, tough on the causes of red tape.

The reality, of course, is that changes to City bonuses really affects only a few

thousand people in London. Far more substantial, in terms of both risk and impact on the country, is the insurance reform that is likely to emerge City pay growth

2019

this week

2018

Under European rules, called Solvency II, imposed in 2016, insurance firms are allowed to invest people's annuities only in extremely low-risk assets such as bonds. The idea was that, with millions of people relying on annuities to fund their retirements, risky punts must not be taken with the money.

2020 2021 22

Insurers argued that the restrictions went way too far. They said, reasonably, that there are plenty of much-needed, low-risk infrastructure projects that

annuities could be funding - windfarms, say – but which are currently off limits.

The Bank's Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) agrees that the scope of what annuities can be invested in by insurers should be widened, but it wants them to set aside more funding than they currently do as a buffer in case the investments go bad.

Insurers have been howling about this for years, but only fairly recently found ministers willing to take an interest.

In a gobsmacking testament to the industry's lobbying prowess, both Sunak and Truss made the obscure Solvency II rules a key plank in their leadership election bids.

The pair latched onto it because they wanted to proclaim a "Brexit dividend" a clear benefit to the country of being able to set our own rules. Ironically, it is quite the opposite. The EU is already watering down Solvency II in a way that would free up to €90 billion (£78 billion) of investment capital.

London's insurers argue that, if Britain does not act soon, we will be left

with a Brexit penalty, not a dividend. Furthermore, the companies argue, if they end up being punished with tougher capital rules, they won't be able to invest as much in the higher-yielding

assets that would reap better returns for The PRA counters that, without the changes it proposes, some eight million

policyholders, with £380 billion of funds invested, could be put at risk of losing their retirement incomes if the investments go bust or default.

Less capital, fewer checks and fewer restrictions on assets does put policyholders at more risk, as the PRA's Sam Woods has said.

Insurers claim the PRA is taking too academic a stance, and fails to grasp the issues. In the bars around EC3, they put it in less polite terms.

They could be right; insurance accounting is massively complicated. But its very complexity should perhaps give us pause for thought.

Woods is not some anti-business Cassandra. He and his PRA are effective, experienced and, in banking circles at least, held in high regard. He doesn't

pick fights on a whim. He is still in the process of finalising

the regulator's thinking on Solvency II and could come to a compromise that insurers can live with. But, if he can't satisfy himself that the system is safe, we should not just ignore him.

The government's growth agenda is no bad thing, but we may regret it at leisure if we deregulate in haste.

# Fixed pay should feel the pain

A last word on bankers' bonuses. When the millionaire foot soldiers in the City get their fixed pay slashed as they return to bonus-driven pay packages, let's not forget to keep an eye on whether it's the same for their bosses.

Chief executive roles at the big banks in London all had their fixed packages bumped up by a million or so to reflect the bonus cull – so that should mean they get the same lopped off under the new regime. Alison Rose at NatWest receives £2.2 million of fixed pay, while Barclays' CS Venkatakrishnan gets £2.7 million.

When we revert to the old bonus rules, will they be kissing half of that goodbye? Oliver Shah is away

# Misery index turns a corner -but there's a long way to go

here has been some rare good news on the economy in recent days. The consumer prices index (CPI) measure of inflation fell for the first time since September 2021, from 10.1 to 9.9 per cent last month, and the unemployment rate also came down, from 3.8 to 3.6 per cent – pretty much as close to full employment as you can get, and the lowest since mid-1974. I shall dig a little deeper into the unemployment fall further down including a technical explanation of why it may have happened.

The misery index, invented by the late Arthur Okun, an eminent American economist, has thus fallen for the first time in a long while. It is the combination of the unemployment and inflation rates, and so is fractionally lower than a month ago though much higher than this time last year and, indeed, for many months before that.

Okun also invented the "two successive quarters" definition of recession: gross domestic product (GDP) falling two quarters in a row. As chairman of Lyndon B Johnson's Council of Economic Advisers, he had been looking for a way to get LBJ off the hook after bad economic news. It was a political contrivance and ultimately unnecessary, because LBJ pulled out of the 1968 presidential race. But it has stuck, though not in America, where deciding on a recession is the responsibility of the National Bureau of Economic Research's business cycle dating committee, which is not nearly as much fun as it sounds.

Anyway, the two-quarter definition may soon be tested in this country, depending on the extent to which tomorrow's bank holiday for the Queen's state funeral reduces GDP. If that was all that is happening, it would be an artificial recession, GDP having fallen fractionally in the second quarter – in which there was also an additional bank holiday. But the economy has lost momentum and is flat at best, even without special factors.

More on that in a moment when I return to unemployment. First, what about the cost of living? The dip in consumer prices inflation was not the only bit of inflation good news.

What is sometimes called "pipeline" inflation, for producer prices, also edged lower, though it remains strikingly high. Input price inflation, for raw materials and fuels, came down from 22.6 to 20.5 per cent, while output inflation for prices charged - slipped from 17.1 to

There may also be good news on inflation in the short term. The drop in petrol and diesel prices – the big reason for inflation's fall last month – has gone further. In August, the average petrol price used by the Office for National Statistics was 175p a litre. The latest figure, according to the RAC, is 167p.

After that, we will find that inflation has not yet peaked. The £2,500 energy price freeze level for the average household includes the £400 payment that the new prime minister has inherited from her leadership rival Rishi Sunak. But that £400 will not be included in the CPI, so energy prices will



**David Smith Economic Outlook** 

# We can but hope that we won't be miserable for too long

still be exerting an upward impact on inflation from October 1, when household bills next rise for their gas and electricity. Businesses, meanwhile, are having to wait for their help.

Inflation will thus rise further over the autumn and winter. Optimists think it will not go much above 10 per cent, pessimists see a peak near 12 per cent.

It is, however, possible to see the light at the end of the inflation tunnel. The "electricity, gas and other fuels" part of the CPI is currently up 69.7 per cent on a year ago. By the autumn of next year, it will be close to zero, and overall inflation down to half, at most, its current rate of about 10 per cent. The public, I should say, is with me on this. The latest Bank of England survey of inflation expectations for two and five years ahead shows that they have eased back from 3.4 to 3.2 per cent in two years' time, and from 3.5 to 3.1 per cent in five years.

There is still pain to go through, with food prices rising at an annual rate of

13.4 per cent. And for the Bank, which is ready to raise interest rates aggressively again this week, "core" inflation is much too high at 6.3 per cent.

The UK and European governments are capping energy prices, and this will hold down measured inflation. Other inflationary pressures, it is assumed, will subside because of economic slowdowns/recessions, partly brought about by higher interest rates, partly by the squeeze on real incomes in place.

That brings me to the second element of the misery index – the lowest unemployment rate since 1974. How can this be when the economy has stopped growing? One reason is that unemployment is a lagging indicator – its response to economic growth is delayed. So the slowdown may not have taken effect yet.

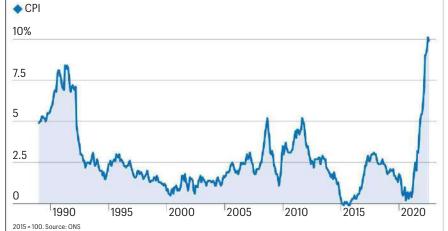
The technical reason I mentioned was brought to my attention in a webinar a few days ago by Sir Charlie Bean, former deputy governor of the Bank. Many people probably think unemployment figures are still calculated by using an actual count of people out of work. That used to be the case when the main measure was the claimant count - the numbers claiming unemployment benefit under its various names.

Now, the unemployment and employment totals are taken from the Office for National Statistics' Labour Force Survey (LFS), this year covering nearly 76,000 individuals in almost 35,000 households. For anybody worried that this does not give an

# **UNEMPLOYMENT IS AT A NEAR 50-YEAR LOW...**



# ... BUT INFLATION IS STILL VERY HIGH



# accurate picture, a good sample size for, say, an opinion poll would be 2,000.

Those selected for the survey are interviewed five times at three-monthly intervals. Their first interview is Wave 1, through to Wave 5, after which they drop out to be replaced by others. Now - and this is the point Bean was making – it so happens that the latest people recruited to the survey, who did their Wave 1 interviews in July, had a very low unemployment rate: just 2.3 per cent. This dragged down the average, an effect that may continue, suggesting the unemployment rate has further to fall.

But, and this is important, those latest recruits also had an inactivity rate - not in work and not available for work - of 23.4 per cent, above the average. It is important because, at present, the low unemployment rate is not a great measure of the health of the labour market. The inactivity rate for people aged 16-64 has gone up from 20.4 per cent before the pandemic to 21.7 per cent now – and, judging by the latest LFS cohort, it may have further to rise.

Just over 640,000 more people are economically inactive, many due to longterm health issues, though not in general long Covid. The inactivity rise explains why, despite a low unemployment rate, employment is 330,000 below prepandemic levels. It also helps explain labour shortages, along with other factors, including Brexit. The labour market is not yet restored to health.

Incidentally, back in 1974, when the unemployment rate was last this low, the labour market was very different. Then, the employment rate among 16-64 men was 91 per cent; it is 78.8 per cent now, partly due to more years in education. But it is among women that the change has been striking, with their rate of employment up from 55 to 72.1 per cent.

To return to the misery index, it is the unemployment rate that matters. There is still, despite the energy price freeze, a miserable autumn and winter to come, driven by inflation if not unemployment. But we can hope that we will not be miserable for too long.

One exception to the general picture of falling inflation was the official house price index, just published but covering July. This showed an annual rise of 15.5 per cent, redolent of unsustainable house-price booms of the past.

Fortunately, there was an innocent explanation. Though the annual rate leapt from 7.8 per cent in June to 15.5 per cent in July, house prices did not rise as much as that implies during the month though a monthly increase of nearly 2 per cent was quite chunky.

The big rise in the annual rate reflects what was happening in July 2021, when prices fell 4.8 per cent on the month in response to the phasing out of the Covid stamp duty reduction. This "base effect' explains the jump in the annual rate.

That distortion will take some time to drop out of the figures, so we can expect high annual rates for a while. And, on any measure, property prices are too expensive. But as general inflation falls, house-price inflation should eventually david.smith@sunday-times.co.uk

# Biden fuels a fire, the Fed puts it out

# **Irwin Stelzer American Account**

here is bad news from the battlefront. No, not the Ukraine-Russian front lines, where things seem to be going better than expected, but from the battle between the Fed and the president. The Federal Reserve, fighting inflation, is hurling its fraction of 1 per cent interest rate increases against Joe Biden's trillions in new spending and loan forgiveness, and the inflationary effects of new restrictions on the development of the nation's oil reserves. The result is an inflation rate that has investors rattled and consumers hurting.

Consumer prices rose 8.3 per cent last month on a year earlier. For those who neither eat nor drive - nor light or heat their homes - the remaining "core" prices were up 6.3 per cent. It's the need to eat that is the biggest problem given some of the percentage rises facing shoppers: eggs up 39.8 per cent; milk +17; bread +16.2; chicken +16.6; and Olives +18 – especially bad news with big hikes in gin prices in the pipeline.

Consumers are shying away from increasingly pricey non-essentials – the volume of sales of frozen dinners has fallen by 11 per cent and cookies by 9 per cent. Inflation is no fun. Even upperincome consumers are adapting: McDonald's and other fast-food chains are reporting inflows of posher consumers trading down. The unexpectedly bad inflation news

was accompanied by another data release showing that inflation-adjusted income for the typical household fell last year, while income inequality increased for the first time in a decade. On the day of this data dump, the president hosted a party on the White House lawn featuring music by James Taylor. Thousands of Biden's supporters celebrated the passage of his Inflation Reduction Act at about the same time as Mark Zandi, the Biden team's favourite economist, was reporting that the average household is paying \$460 a month more for the same stuff it bought a year ago.

Even before the new inflation data, a study by a team of economists was published by the Brookings Institution, a liberal Washington think tank. Jason Furman, chairman of the Council of **Economic Advisers under President** Obama, waded through the technical definitions, inserted some optimistic assumptions and the usual caveats, and produced an article in The Wall Street Journal headlined "Inflation and the Scariest Economics Paper of 2022".

Furman believes that to bring prices down to the Fed's target of 2 per cent, we might need to tolerate an average unemployment rate of 6.5 per cent in 2023 and 2024. He goes on to estimate that if the Fed were willing to raise its inflation target to 3 per cent, the unemployment rate we would need to live with would be 4 rather than 6.5 per cent, which he characterises as "healthier for the economy".

Which brings us back to the war between the Fed and the president. The bank has increased to \$95 billion (£83 billion) the rate at which it will reduce purchases of maturing treasuries and mortgages. And when its monetary policy team meets later this week, it will

undoubtedly raise interest rates by 0.75 per cent. But it faces a tough foe. The government's decision to forgive student loan debt will pump about \$1 trillion into the economy, the infrastructure law another \$1.2 trillion, the Chips and Science Act more than \$280 billion, and whatever part of the \$745 billion Inflation Reduction Act that proves not covered by its tax increases.

Despite the trillions in inflation fuel, the Fed is having some successes. Its decision to reduce its support for the mortgage market has already driven rates on the typical 30-year fixed-rate home loan above 6 per cent for the first time since 2008. That, added to increases in property prices, has brought a red-hot housing market close to a deep freeze; sales of new homes are down about 30 per cent on last year.





# **Bad inflation news** came on the same day the president threw a party

The mere talk of the recession that the Fed might be pushing the economy into – combined with lay-offs by such as Goldman Sachs, Microsoft, Peloton, Crypto.com, Ford and Siemens – is changing the tone of the labour market. Professional recruitment firms for the tech industry report doing "a 180", switching from trying to line up recruits to trying to find job openings for their lists of applicants. It is too soon to guess whether that experience will spread to other sectors.

The overall market still has two openings for every job seeker, the participation rate of men at prime working age continues to decline, legal immigration has fallen by more than three million workers compared to what it would have been had pre-Covid trajectories continued, and the benefits of not working remain significant. These are all reasons why airlines, hotels and restaurants continue to complain about shortages of workers.

It is too soon to tell whether Biden's trillions will be sufficient to offset the effects of the Fed's anti-inflation weapons. Pangloss would argue that the Fed will cool inflation while the president shores up the economy. Economists would call that a soft landing.

irwin@irwinstelzer.com

Irwin Stelzer is a business adviser

# **BUSINESS**

# Prufrock

# Less realism, Wael, or shareholders will wail

Congratulations to Wael Sawan, the new boss of Shell, who will be taking over from Ben van Beurden next year.

Sawan, a company lifer, will have to lead the oil giant through a treacherous period. For starters, it is making an obscene amount of money while people worry about keeping the heating on. It also has to work out whether it really wants to be a leader in renewable energy.

But what do we know of Sawan? An impressive CV and a squeaky-clean page on LinkedIn. Sawan's interests are listed as Harvard Business School, a couple of energy companies, and a furniture maker in Dubai.

Still, with BP boss Bernard Looney likening his company to a "cash machine". Shell is wise to pick a dull CEO.

Delving a little deeper, though, it seems Sawan is a thoughtful chap. In a 2019 interview with Argentinian newspaper La Nación, he said: "Good people come and go. The institutions are those that remain. And if you believe in institutions, you can create value."

"Creating value" is music to shareholders' ears although Sawan also mused: "All countries go through good times and difficult times

. We have ups and downs." Investors will want more ups than downs, Wael.

Exciting times for Tevva, the Essex-based maker of batteryand hydrogen-powered trucks. Its founder, Asher Bennett, is unveiling its biggest vehicle yet at the Hannover International Motor Show tomorrow. The 19-tonne truck is designed to take polluting vehicles off inter-city journeys. For anyone doubting that electric trucks can go the distance, Bennett is sending his vehicles by road from Tevva's Tilbury base to Hannover. They won't even be cleaned before they go on show -to prove they made the trip. Bennett is the brother of recently deposed Israeli prime minister Naftali Bennett, and a former submarine officer. "The whole bottom of the submarine was a big bank of batteries connected to an electric motor," he recalls. "So that sub was my first electric vehicle."



Denise Van Outen was one of Regtransfers' clients

# JUST SAYING ...

They felt very strongly about it. I know it can sound flippant, but they really embody this notion that every

billionaire is a policy failure Ryan Gellert, chief executive of

Patagonia, on the Chouinard family's

decision to give away the company

# Successona plate no longer

When Tony Brown started selling personalised numberplates in 1982, he relied on his home phone and shoving flvers under windscreen wipers.

"I had to run around wealthy places placing cards on old vehicles such as Morris Minors asking if they wanted to sell their numberplates," the boss of Regtransfers recalled a few years ago. "Then I would place other cards on Rolls-Royces and Bentleys asking whether they wanted to buy a personal number.'

It turns out that Brown has The Sunday Times to thank for the sale of his first "big number" - B1 - after placing an advert in these pages early in his career. He has since amassed a following among celebrity clients including Denise Van Outen (left) and her former partner Jay Kay, the Jamiroquai musician.

Now Prufrock learns that 40 years after starting out and with turnover approaching £57 million – KPMG has been called in to explore strategic options for Regtransfers. Perhaps this mention will clinch Brown another deal.

FTSE 100

7,800

7,600

7,400

7,200

7,000

6,800

RISERS

Source: Refinitiv/Eikon

2021

Wood Group: 143.1p, ▲ 8% on

government energy plans; Helios

Towers: 126.7p, ▲ 7.1% on sentiment

profits; NCC: 233p, ▲ 6% on overseas

**Dunelm:** 782.5p. ▲ **6.3**% on record

# What's next for troubled Joules?

These are tough times for the countryside fashion brand Joules - but you would never know it from speaking to the company. When Sky News reported last month that hopes of a rescue deal with Next were fading – a story verified by Prufrock's own sources - Joules rushed out a statement that "positive discussions" with Next were, in fact, ongoing. Then, when The Sunday Times heard nine days ago that Next had pulled the plug on talks to take a stake, Joules' spinners at Hudson Sandler rubbished



The Metal Exchange will fall silent on Monday

the notion. Lo and behold, four days later, Joules tells the world that those talks have ended. The firm might need to start making hard hats alongside its tops and wellies, looking at the bombed-out share price.

# All quiet on the metal exchange

Tomorrow's public holiday sparked a flurry of announcements to the stock exchange last week as companies hastily changed their plans. HSBC had intended to set the exchange rate used to make its dividend payment tomorrow, while Standard Chartered had said it was the deadline for shareholders to decide in which currency they wanted

their dividend. Both shifted

the decision by 24 hours.

The London Metal Exchange will keep trading, however, as tomorrow is a key day for valuations in the metal markets. But the first of its "open outcry" sessions in its trading ring will not take place as this would have been during the actual funeral service. Trading fees from the day will be donated to charity. Quite right- we don't want an outcry over the

\$1.14

EURO

YEN

DOLLARS/BARREL

▼1.49 12-month high: \$127.98 low: \$60.68

DOLLARS/TROY OZ

\$1,674.94

**BITCOIN** 

12-month high: \$2,052.41 low: \$1,674.94

12-month high: \$67,707.33 low: \$17,224.29 Price at 12.30pm Saturday

\$91.35

**FUNNY BUSINESS** 



# **TWITTER POLL**



Have you cut back on spending ahead of your energy bill in October? @ST Business

# THE TIPSTER

**LUCY TOBIN** 

# Treatt will be back as flavour of the month

It's not even alcoholic, but iced tea has given investors in **Treatt** a painful hangover.

News that Americans are spending less on the oncepopular drink made with flavour-maker Treatt's ingredients triggered a profit warning that knocked 30 per cent off the stock last month. The shares haven't bounced back much since.

Admittedly, it wasn't just the tea. Treatt, founded in 1886 and now a key player in the £20 billion flavour and fragrances sector, also blamed cost inflation when it cut pretax profit expectations for the year by a third. The surging dollar didn't help (about half its sales are in dollars), nor did lockdowns in China, where Treatt had been expanding.

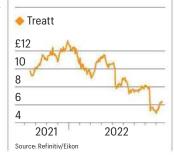
Still, the share price reaction – from £11.50 in April, the stock is now £6.20 – may seem overdone in the

longer term. For investors willing to sit out the impact of recession. Treatt's current issues aren't structural - and the bedrock of its business looks like it could fulfil the promise of its name.

Treatt sells 3,000 products to customers in more than 90 countries, including some of the world's biggest food and drinks makers, as well as household goods giants (for scented cleaning products).

Its niche lies in a growing market: Treatt's natural flavourings - made from foods such as water melon and lemons – are in demand as consumers shift towards healthier food and show growing distrust for sugar and artificial flavourings.

The firm is "an industry leader due to its sourcing expertise and technical capabilities," according to



Berenberg Bank's Ashton Olds, who points out that Treatt has compounded revenues at an impressive 9 per cent over the past 15 years. The latest results also show its order book is 25 per cent ahead this year on last; that sales are up; and that there is an extra dash of optimism from M&A opportunities: Berenberg believes the firm could become "a prime takeover candidate" due to its strong relationships with customers and suppliers, technical

expertise and spare capacity. Chief executive Daemmon Reeve, as well as incoming chairman Vijay Thakrar and the man he's replacing, Tim Iones, have all used the profit warning-whacked stock price to beef up their stakes in Treatt. That inspires confidence and looks like a

move worth following.

It's margins, not sales, that are the problem for the Bury St Edmunds-based company. While the margin-squeezing components won't vaporise any time soon, neither will they be around forever. As a long-term investment, now looks like a good time for investors to Treatt themselves.

# THE WEEK IN THE MARKETS

**FTSE 100** 

30.822.42

**NASDAQ** 

11,448.40

**S&P 500** 

3,873.33

NIKKEI

27,567.65

**▼663.90 H:** 16,057.4 **▼5.48% L:** 10,646.1

**▼194.03 H:** 4,796.6 **▼4.77% L:** 3,666.8

**▼647.1 H:** 30,622.39 **V2.29% L:** 24,717.53

**DOW JONES** 

**▼1,329.29H:** 36,799.7 **▼4.13% L:** 29,888.8

**HANG SENG** 18,761.69



**▼135.66 H:** 3,681.1 **▼4.16% L:** 2,886.4 **CAC 40** 



6,077.30 ▼135.03 H: 7,376.4 ▼2.17% L: 5,795.0



**DAX** 12,741.26 **▼346.95 H:** 16,271.8 **▼2.65% L:** 12,401.2

# **FTSE EUROFIRST** 1.612.80

2022

Hilton Food: 664p. ▼ 30.9% on profit

warning; **Synthomer:** 165.5p, **▼ 13.4%** 

on sentiment; Chrysalis Investment:

63 1n ▼ 13% on portfolio value slump-

Melrose Industries: 111p, ▼ 12.9% on

Source: AJ Bell/Sharenad

**FALLERS** 

**▼45.56 H:** 1,917.4 **▼2.75% L:** 1,579.3 **SENSEX** 

58,840.79 **▼952.35 H:** 61,765.6 **▼1.59% L:** 51,360.4

**ALL ORDS** 6,975.20 **▼163.80 H:** 7,926.8 **▼2.29% L:** 6,609.5

**S&P TSX** 19,385.88

**▼387.46 H:** 22,087.2 **▼1.96% L:** 18,329.1

# THE ECONOMY

Consumer prices index current rate prev. month 9.9% 10.1% CPI including housing current rate prev. month 8.6% 8.8% Retail prices index current rate prev. month 12.3% 12.3% on prev. monthon last year Average weekly earnings ▲0.2% ▲5.7% £613 Unemployment current rate prev. month 3.6% 3.8% **1.22**m Manufacturing output on the year on last month **▲1.3% ▼1.6%** Retail sales on the year on last month **▼ 5.4%** ▲ 1.6% UK trade balance latest 3 mths prev. 3 mths latest 12 month -32.98 Gross domestic latest quarter prev. quarter annual change **▼** 0.1% **▲** 0.8% **▲** 2.9%

# **10-YEAR BOND YIELDS %**

**4.9** 

last month prev. month year to date

**20.9 55** 

			12			
			high	low		
UK	3.14	▲0.04	3.17	0.70		
US	3.45	▲0.13	3.48	1.3		
JAPAN	0.26	▲0.01	0.26	0.04		
GERMANY	1.77	▲0.06	1.77	-0.39		

# **TOP 200 COMPANIES**

Mark ▼	et cap ranking	Price	Change on wee		2-week low	Yield	P/E	Mkt Ca (£br
38	3i Group	1134.0	-32.5	1503.5	1059.0	4.1	2.7	11.
118	3I Infrastructure	334.5	-3.5	366.5	304.0	3.1	7.4	3.0
110	Abcam	1429.0	+144.0	1750.0	1049.0	0.0	N.A	3.
116	Abrdn	144.2	-7.2	263.9	141.6	10.1	5.2	3.
58	Admiral	2272.0	+71.0	3524.0	1729.0	3.8	17.4	6.
74	Airtel Africa	135.8	-3.8	170.9	93.3	3.2	8.8	5.
121	Alliance Trust	961.0	-30.0	1078.0	887.0	2.5	N.A	2.
15	Anglo American	2818.5			2470.5	7.5	5.7	37.
37	Antofagasta	1133.5	-62.0	1781.5	991.6	10.6	14.5	11.
195	Ashmore	223.8	-2.8	370.2	192.0	7.6	17.9	1.
26	Ashtead	4262.0	-30.0			1.7	16.2	18.
40	Associated British Foods	1324.5	-30.5	2131.0	1324.5	2.0	13.2	10.
167	Assura	63.5	-0.6	75.7	59.6	4.2	11.4	1.5
2	AstraZeneca			11440.0		2.5	N.A	157.
68	Auto Trader	614.2	-44.2	741.8	499.5	1.3	24.0	5.
43	AVEVA	3052.0		4032.0		1.2	N.A	9.
34	Aviva	440.1	-3.0	467.9	370.9	6.7	N.A	12.
108	B&M European Value Retail	337.6	-13.0	644.0	337.6	4.9	8.0	3.
192	Babcock International	320.6	+0.2	380.2	295.1	0.0	10.0	1.
24	BAE Systems	764.8	-19.6	838.4	528.8	3.3	17.7	23.
156	Balfour Beatty	334.4	+0.4	340.4	215.6	2.8	11.5	2.0
19	Barclays	171.1	+2.3	217.1	140.6	3.7	5.8	27.
87	Barratt Developments	429.0	+6.8	760.0	406.4	8.6	8.6	4.
95	Beazley	625.0	+19.0	628.0	370.2	2.4	25.2	3.
138	Bellway	1993.0	-62.0	3505.0		6.4	6.0	2.
92	Berkeley Holdings	3595.0	+53.0	4903.0		0.4	8.7	3.
146	Bia Yellow	1215.0	-34.0	1724.0	1188.0	3.3	3.2	2.
6	BP BP	452.1	+1.3	463.4	303.7	4.4	N.A	85.0
199	<u></u>	514.0	+1.0	517.0	266.0	2.2	29.7	1.0
148	Brewin Dolphin Hldngs	266.2	+7.2	569.0	208.0	N.A	37.9	2.
8	Bridgepoint British American Tobacco	3450.5	-38.5	3628.0	2512.5	6.3	15.0	77.
o 97			-30.5					
160	British Land Company Britvic	410.1 759.0	-25.0	556.4 949.5	406.1 741.0	4.8 3.4	4.0 17.5	3.0
33	BT	139.1	-25.0	200.9	135.2	5.5	11.0	13.
42		2737.0			2397.0	2.1	20.4	9.
42 59	Bunzl		+12.5			2.7	17.6	
166	Burberry	1724.0 3450.0		2063.0	1482.0			6.
36	Caledonia Inv Carnival		-155.0 +30.8	1766.4	3230.0 619.6	1.9	3.1 N.A	1.9
		812.0				0.0		11.
79 170	Centrica City of London IT	80.8 397.0	-6.1 -9.0	91.0 425.0	50.8 377.0	1.2 4.8	N.A 6.0	4.5
_								
200		1036.0	+4.0	1575.0	987.0	6.2	7.7	1.0
55	Coca Cola HBC	1920.0	-48.0	2687.0		3.2	17.3	7.
16	Compass	1875.0	-25.0		1440.0	1.2	N.A	33.
131	Computacenter	2098.0	-84.0		2098.0	3.4	13.3	2.
187	ContourGlobal	254.5	-2.0	258.0	178.0	6.6	10.5	1.
83	ConvaTec	223.8	-4.4	245.8	166.9	2.3	N.A	4.
25	CRH	3082.5		4002.0	2756.5	3.5	10.5	23.
45	Croda International			10410.0		1.6	12.6	9.0
134	Darktrace	353.7	-25.5	985.0	287.6	0.0	N.A	2.
81	DCC			6486.0	4717.0	3.7	14.9	4.
109	Dechra Pharma	2950.0	-338.0	5365.0	2950.0	1.5	N.A	3.

96.8 +6.9 328.4 76.4 0.0 N.A

Moule	at any vanking	D.:	01		· I.			Min O	Morle	et cap ranking
viark •	et cap ranking	Price	Change on wee		2-week low	Yield	P/E	Mkt Cap (£bn)	wark ▼	ет сар гапкіпд
127	Derwent London	2438.0	+8.0	3679.0	2352.0	2.7	10.2	2.7	93	Investec
5	Diageo	3745.0	-52.0	4103.5	3343.0	2.0	26.8	85.7	132	ITV
114	Diploma	2494.0	-40.0	3460.0	2158.0	1.8	42.1	3.1	80	J Sainsbury
123	Direct Line Insurance	212.0	-0.6	312.3	193.7	10.7	10.6	2.8	62	JD Sports Fashion
129	Dr Martens	260.0	+11.0	429.8	182.9	1.6	14.4	2.6	173	Jet2
124	Drax	690.5	-59.0	831.5	475.6	2.9	13.7	2.8	101	Johnson Matthey
	DS Smith	265.5	-13.7	458.7	260.4	5.6	13.1	3.7	183	Kainos
197	Dunelm	782.5	+46.0	1486.0	670.5	1.8	9.4	1.6	176	Keywords Studios
128	EasyJet	346.0	-12.9	727.4	345.5	0.0	N.A	2.6	78	Kingfisher
133	Energean	1430.0	+12.0	1454.0	776.0	1.8	N.A	2.6	85	Land Securities
53	Entain	1213.0	-5.5	2377.0		0.0	33.5	7.2	32	Legal & General
196	Euromoney Inst Inv	1450.0	+0.0	1466.0	829.0	1.3	N.A	1.6	17 13	Lloyds Banking
22 82	Experian F&C IT	2661.0 894.0	-69.0 +19.0	946.0	2285.0 770.0	1.8	24.5 N.A	24.6	155	London Stock Exchar Londonmetric Prop
oz 175	Finsbury Growth & Inc Tr	826.0	-14.0	930.0	734.0	1.1	17.0	1.8	135	LXI REIT
29	Flutter Entertainment	10320.0		15890.0		0.0	N.A	18.2	75	M&G
99	Frasers	786.0	-26.0	949.5	562.5	0.0	13.3	3.8	113	Man
71	Fresnillo	730.0	+1.4	986.8	622.4	3.5	26.1	5.4	145	Marks and Spencer
159	Future	1657.0	+9.0	3830.0		0.2	23.4	2.0	102	Mediclinic Int
142	Games Workshop			11590.0		2.2	18.2	2.3	86	Melrose Industries
171	Genus	2782.0	-78.0	5750.0	2234.0	1.2	44.6	1.8	180	Micro Focus Int
9	Glencore	489.3	+0.9	541.5	312.0	2.3	4.7	63.9	54	Mondi
186	Grafton	737.6	-9.8	1381.0	704.0	3.0	8.8	1.7	144	Monks Investment Tr
162	Grainger	265.0	-2.4	319.2	258.8	2.0	13.1	2.0	14	National Grid
94	Greencoat UK Wind	166.8	+3.3	166.8	129.8	4.5	4.6	3.9	20	NatWest
158	Greggs	1971.0	-28.0		1804.0	2.9	17.0	2.0	190	Network Int Hldngs
10	GSK	1321.4	-27.2	1810.4	1321.4	6.5	12.0	54.0	50	Next
23	Haleon	259.4	-1.6	316.5	246.2	0.0	16.0	24.1	172	Ninety One
49	Halma	2000.0		3216.0		0.9	31.0	7.6	69	Ocado
88	Harbour Energy	480.0	-0.4	530.0	298.5	2.0	5.1	4.2	143	OSB
189	HarbourVest Global PE	2070.0	-90.0	2940.0		0.0	1.8	1.7	139	Oxford Nanopore Tec
89	Hargreaves Lansdown	854.4	-2.4 -2.0	1598.0 175.4	762.6	4.6 1.8	18.7 17.2	4.1 1.9	61 140	Pearson
163 182	Hays HgCapital Trust	119.0 375.0	+6.5	454.0	109.0 312.0	1.0	2.7	1.7	84	Pennon Persimmon
104	HICL Infrastructure	176.2	-0.2	183.0	161.0	4.7	9.3	3.6	168	
125	Hikma Pharma	1253.5	-32.0	2474.0	1231.5	3.9	9.6	2.8	137	Petershill Partners
111	Hiscox	936.4	+24.6	990.2	792.8	3.5	N.A	3.3	65	Phoenix Holdings
91	HomeServe	1188.0	-2.0	1190.0	608.5	0.6	30.2	4.0	193	Plus500
112	Howden Joinery	568.8	-16.0	975.6	552.4	3.4	10.1	3.2	136	Polar Capital Tech Tr
3	HSBC Holdings	529.6	+4.6	567.2	359.8	4.6	9.0	106.2	177	Primary Health Prope
174	Hutchmed (China)	210.0	-26.0	567.0	144.0	0.0	N.A	1.8	21	Prudential
107	IG Holdings	792.0	-1.5	857.5	648.0	5.6	8.6	3.4	165	QinetiQ
120	IMI	1116.0	-26.0	1838.0	1071.0	2.2	14.2	2.9	11	Reckitt Benckiser
28	Imperial Brands	1910.5	-42.0	1952.5		7.3	9.0	18.2	179	Redrow
126	Inchcape	737.0	-15.0	928.0	647.0	3.2	12.4	2.8	12	Relx
157	Indivior	291.4	-2.4	336.8	197.1	0.0	16.5	2.0	103	Renewables Infrastru
48	Informa	551.4	-9.4	624.0	464.4	0.5	42.2	8.0	130	
46	InterContinental Hotels	4670.0		5338.0		2.6	22.8	8.5	41	Rentokil Initial
106	Intermediate Capital	1212.5	-71.0		1212.5	6.3	6.6	3.5	76	Rightmove
73	International Group	106.0	-5.1	188.0	102.9	0.0	N.A	5.3	7	Rio Tinto
115	International Public Par	162.6 3897.0	-5.4	174.2	156.0 3873.0	4.7 2.7	8.9 21.3	3.1 6.3	105	RIT Capital Partners
64	Intertek	3097.0	-103.0	3/62.0	30/3.U	2.1	∠1.3	0.3	63	Rolls-Royce

et cap ranking	Price			2-week low	Yield	P/E	Mkt Cap (£bn)
Investec	384 2			275.6	6.5	7.6	3.9
							2.6
							4.8
							6.5
							1.8
							3.7
							1.7
							1.8
							4.9
							4.6
							15.7
							32.7
							39.5
							2.
<u>'</u>							2.5
							5.0
							3.2
******							2.3
							3.6
							4.5
							1.8
							7.1
***************************************							2.3
							38.1
							26.5
							26.5
							7.5
							5.6
							2.3
							2.4
							6.6
							2.4
							4.6
							1.9
							2.5
							6.1
							1.6
							2.5
							1.8
							26.4
• • • •							1.9
							45.0
							1.8
******							43.0
							3.6
							2.6
							9.7
<u> </u>							5.0
Rio Tinto	4785.5	-74.5	6225.0	4375.5	12.5	5.1	80.2
	Investec ITV J Sainsbury JD Sports Fashion Jet2 Johnson Matthey Kainos Keywords Studios Kingfisher Land Securities Legal & General Lloyds Banking London Stock Exchange Londonmetric Prop LXI REIT M&G Man Marks and Spencer Mediclinic Int Melrose Industries Micro Focus Int Mondi Monks Investment Trust National Grid NatWest Network Int Hldngs Next Ninety One Ocado OSB Oxford Nanopore Techn Pearson Pennon Personal Assets Trust Petershill Partners Phoenix Holdings Plus500 Polar Capital Tech Trust Primary Health Properties Prudential QinetiQ Reckitt Benckiser Redrow Relx Renewables Infrastructure Renishaw Rentokil Initial Rightmove	Investec   384.2   ITV	Investec	Investec	Investec   384.2   20.5   536.8   275.6     ITV   63.4   -1.2   30.5   510.2     JSainsbury   202.8   40.2   30.6   517.0     JD Sports Fashion   125.3   -24.0   170.0     Jet2   846.4   -29.2   1423.0   783.8     Johnson Matthey   1984.0   -24.0   2084.0   1721.0     Kainos   1375.0   -74.0   2084.0   1952.0     Keywords Studios   2292.0   -124.0   3156.0   1952.0     Keywords Studios   2292.0   -124.0   3156.0   1952.0     Keymords Studios   247.3   -52.0   370.5   229.9     Land Securities   612.6   -22.4   313.2   612.6     Legal & General   262.0   -0.3   307.8   233.2     London Stock Exchange   7786.0   -0.3   578.0   313.6     London Stock Exchange   7786.0   -13.8   551.1   41.0     London Stock Exchange   7786.0   -12.9   274.2   131.8     LXIREIT   147.4   -3.6   154.0   133.6     M&G   201.2   -2.9   274.9   178.9     Marks and Spencer   114.3   -3.4   256.9   114.3     Melcilainc Int   492.0   -2.4   501.5   286.4     Melrose Industries   111.3   -12.4   154.0   107.0     Mondis Investment Trust   1031.0   -12.4   154.0   107.0     Monks Investment Trust   1031.0   -12.4   154.0   107.0     Monks Investment Trust   1031.0   -12.0   137.0   107.0     Monks Investment Trust   1031.0   -12.0   137.0   107.0     Network Int Hldngs   279.4   18.3   174.0     Network Int Hldngs   -12.0   -12.0   -12.0   107.0   107.0     Network Int Hldngs   -12.0   -12.0   -12.0   107.0   107.0     Network Int Hldngs   -12.0   -12.0   -12.0   107.0	Investec	Investec

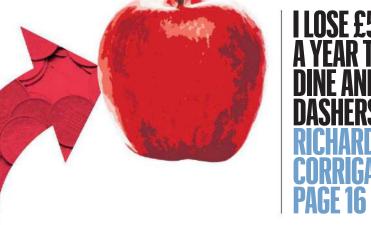
2275.0 -20.0 2765.0 2220.0

75.8 -2.7 147.5 71.3 0.0 N.A

Mark ▼	et cap ranking	Price	Change on week		2-week low	Yield	P/E	Mkt Cap (£bn)
153	Rotork	237.6	-11.6	373.4	232.8	2.7	28.1	2.1
147	Royal Mail	229.7	-29.4	526.8	229.7	2.9	3.7	2.2
77	RS	1040.0	-59.0	1255.0	812.0	1.7	21.4	4.9
152	Safestore Holdings	985.0	-43.0	1418.0	968.5	2.3	4.4	2.1
52	Sage	718.4	-29.0	853.8	595.6	2.5	25.9	7.4
57	Schroders	2518.0	-142.0	3871.0	2518.0	4.8	12.3	6.9
35	Scottish Mortgage IT	828.0	-9.6	1543.5	670.6	0.4	N.A	11.9
39	Segro	883.4	-47.2	1436.5	877.4	2.4	2.6	10.7
164		161.6	-18.6	188.3	121.2	1.6	12.4	1.9
60	Severn Trent	2647.0	-116.0		2603.0	3.9	N.A	6.7
198	Shaftesbury	406.4	+3.8	662.0	397.0	2.0	4.0	1.6
1	Shell	2296.5			1436.8	3.7	5.5	167.2
44	Smith & Nephew	1055.0	-49.5		1008.0	3.2	21.4	9.2
70	Smiths	1504.0	-33.0		1355.5	2.5	23.9	5.4
149	Smithson IT	1258.0			1140.0	0.0	N.A	2.2
141	Softcat	1183.0		2240.0	1183.0	1.8	23.2	2.4
119	Spectris	2761.0			2458.0	2.6	16.4	2.9
51	Spirax-Sarco Engineering	10070.0			9130.0	1.4	33.4	7.4
194		262.4	-2.0	298.8	215.4	2.4	19.6	1.6
27	SSE	1745.0	-45.0	1920.0		4.9	7.2	18.7
181	SSP	219.0	-6.6	303.2	201.8	0.0	N.A	1.8
66	St James's Place	1093.0	-50.0		1044.0	5.1	16.1	6.0
30	Standard Chartered	602.2	-12.0	638.6	410.0	1.9	10.3	17.7
122	Tate & Lyle	701.6	-59.6	805.6	629.4	3.3	N.A	2.8
98	Taylor Wimpey	107.6	-0.8	178.0	103.6	8.4	6.7	3.8
184	Templeton Emerg Markets IT	145.8	-2.6	189.2	140.6	2.6	N.A	1.7
31	Tesco	231.5	-8.4	303.4	231.5	4.7	11.8	17.3
188	Trainline	344.7	-10.4	409.0	159.0	0.0	N.A	1.7
178	Travis Perkins	826.4	-25.8	1746.0	805.0	4.7	7.4	1.8
117	Tritax Big Box Reit	162.9	-3.5	249.0	158.3	3.4	2.8	3.1
4	Unilever	3944.0		4063.5	3328.0	3.8	20.0	100.9
90	Unite	1001.0	-50.0	1207.0	990.2	0.9	7.4	4.0
56	United Utilities	1031.5	-24.5	1176.5	968.4	4.2	N.A	7.1
151	Virgin Money UK	149.7	-4.8	218.1	124.3	2.3	3.9	2.1
191	Vistry	745.5	-54.5	1261.5	725.0	8.5	7.6	1.6
18	Vodafone	108.4	-0.1	139.5	106.9	7.1	17.3	30.2
161	Watches of Switzerland	824.0	-34.0	1518.0	737.0	0.0	19.6	2.0
96	Weir	1464.5	-50.0	1897.0		1.8	22.4	3.8
169	WH Smith	1414.0	-26.0	1805.5	1311.0	0.0	N.A	1.9
72	Whitbread	2631.0			2431.0	1.3	N.A	5.3
67	Wise	565.4	+30.8	1150.0	297.4	0.0	N.A	5.8
154		1983.5			1695.0	0.0	N.A	2.1
150	Worldwide Healthcare Tr	3340.0	-110.0	3810.0	2825.0	0.8	N.A	2.2
47	WPP	767.0	-4.2	1224.0	725.8	4.4	14.1	8.4

Price/earnings ratios are based on historic data, with yield and p/e values calculated from most recent reported dividends and earnings per share, using trailing 12-month figures. P/E is not calculated when last twelve months EPS is less than or equal to zero. 52-week highs and lows are end of day. Excludes exchange-traded funds. nc = no change. N.A. = not applicable. Source: Refinitiv

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In charge of £63bn of your savings: Woodford's tainted

fund bosses

Why is the firm that was at the heart of a scandal in 2019 still being allowed to oversee popular investment products? *Ali Hussain* investigates

> he tainted firm facing a penalty of more than £300 million for its role in the Woodford fund scandal is still in charge of more than £60 billion of savers' money.

Link Fund Solutions, which has been warned by the City regulator the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) that it faces a huge compensation bill for its part in the collapse of the Woodford Equity Income fund, oversees some of Britain's most popular funds. They include the £6.5 billion Troy Trojan, the £4.9 billion Lindsell Train Equity and the £837 million Blue Whale Growth funds.

The fund manager Neil Woodford's investment empire fell apart in June 2019 when his flagship fund, which was overseen by Link, was frozen as thousands of investors tried to get their money out.

At one point the fund was the most popular investment in Britain. Recommendations from large platforms, notably Hargreaves Lansdown, helped it to grow to more than £10 billion at its peak.

But the former star manager had taken bigger and bigger bets on high-risk unlisted companies as the performance of his investments stuttered. As the authorised corporate director (ACD) of the fund, Link was supposed to ensure that the fund manager stuck to the rules.

Link has been involved in two other high-profile scandals. The Woodford affair has similarities to the Arch Cru fund scandal of 2009. Link, which was called Capita Financial Managers at the time, was the ACD. The Arch Cru funds were suspended on the grounds of "insufficient liquidity to meet anticipated redemption requests", which was the problem faced by the Woodford fund. Capita paid £32 million to investors as part of a settlement in 2012.

In November 2017 the FCA "publicly censured" Link and ordered it to pay £66 million to investors over its role in the mis-selling of a high-risk scheme called the Connaught Income Fund Guaran-

About 300,000 investors in the Woodford fund are still waiting for compensation. Of the £3.7 billion in the fund when it was frozen, about £2.5 billion has been paid back. After taking into account fees, write-downs and lower valuations of holdings, about £109 million is left,

according to the latest valuation. It means investors have received 69p for every £1 they held when the fund was frozen in June 2019. If the Link penalty, which the FCA suggests should be "up to £309 million", was paid as compensation, as well as the £109 million left in the

fund, that would boost investors' returns to 80p for every £1.

Repayments could go higher because other firms may be drawn into the Woodford scandal's "redress scheme", and any penalties imposed could be repaid to investors. The FCA has yet to decide the penalty, and there is no indication of when it will. The FCA said it "considers that evidence gathered is likely to demonstrate that Link Fund Solutions committed misconduct in the course of its management" of the fund.

Link has the right to appeal against any

Senior figures at Link who were in charge during all three fund scandals have been promoted or have retired. In the 18 months to June 30, 2019, when the fund was frozen, six directors at Link were paid £1.74 million in pay and pension benefits.

Karl Midl, 47, who had a senior role at Link during the collapse of all three funds, was promoted to managing director 11 months after the Woodford fund was frozen. Chris Addenbrooke, 60, the chief executive of Link Fund Solutions, who was also embroiled in the past scandals, resigned in February this year.

Since the fund closed in October 2019 directors of Link, including Addenbrooke and Midl, have received more

Link is in charge of £63.2 billion of fund assets, according to an estimate by the analyst Morningstar. At least one fund

The Equity Income fund manager Neil Woodford

group, Troy Asset Management, has contingency plans in case it needs to replace Link's supervisory role. It has had Link as the ACD for some of its funds since 2017, and said Link's services "remain satisfactory", but added: "As with all of our external providers, we keep Link Fund Solutions' services under review, and have contingency plans to deal with any change or transition of services provided." Many other big-name fund managers refused to comment on their relationship with Link.

Andy Agathangelou, founder of the campaign group Transparency Task Force, said: "There is a growing pile of empirical evidence showing that the FCA is failing to achieve the objective that parliament has given it to provide an appropriate degree of consumer protection. One must wonder why the FCA failed to act swiftly and robustly with Link after the Arch Cru scandal, then the Connaught scandal, and then the Woodford

Link's parent company, Link Group, based in Australia, said it disagreed with the FCA's view but had "not made any commitment to fund or financially support" its UK subsidiary. Any liabilities relating to Woodford "will be confined to Link Fund Solutions Ltd", it said.

A takeover bid by the Australian firm Dye & Durham could depend on whether it agrees to pay any shortfall in the sum that Link may have to pay Woodford investors. Dye & Durham said it was assessing the FCA's proposals.

There is no guarantee that Woodford investors will be compensated to the extent that the FCA would like.

Link Fund Solutions said it profitable "remains strongly capitalised, significantly above its regulatory capital requirement. We believe we have fully complied with our obligations and have acted in the best interests of investors at all times. While we await the outcome of the FCA's investigation, we do not consider that we should face any liability as a result of the

matters being investigated." Chris Cummings, head of the Investment Association, which represents the industry, said: "The conclusion of the FCA's investigation will be vital to better understanding what happened, and where responsibility lies. In the meantime, a range of measures have been taken, including strengthened governance, which should help to reassure UK

The FCA declined to comment.

# ...but at least one fund star is bold enough to admit when he's failed

# **David Brenchley**

The star investor Terry Smith surprisingly resigned from his emerging markets investment trust on Wednesday.

The £350 million Fundsmith Emerging Equities Trust will be liquidated and shareholders' cash will be given back.

Smith has a stellar track record with his £23.5 billion flagship Fundsmith Equity fund, which invests in consumer companies that are poised to keep growing for the long term, such as the tech giant Microsoft and the drinks and snacks firm PepsiCo.

He launched Fundsmith **Emerging Equities Trust in** June 2014 to invest in the overseas stocks in developing countries. Its top holdings include the food and drink firm Nestlé India and the Argentine ecommerce company MercadoLibre.

The trust's shares jumped 10 per cent after the announcement. Total returns from the trust have been 34.4 per cent since launch versus a gain of 65 per cent for the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

### What is an investment trust?

An investment trust is a collective investment vehicle that pools cash from different investors. It is run by a manager who invests in a diversified portfolio of assets, from company shares and bonds to hospitals, forests and song rights. Investment trusts are listed on the stock exchange, so have their own share price and can be traded easily.

They are different from traditional investment funds because they have a board of directors, which oversees the fund and its manager.

# What does the board of directors do?

The board is made up of non-executive directors, who are independent from the trust's investment manager. They are paid, but are not employees of the trust.

The board has a legal responsibility to protect investors' interests, including negotiating management fees and ensuring that the manager is doing a good job.

Investment trusts have reduced the fees charged to shareholders 169 times since 2017, according to the Association of Investment



Smith's flagship fund invests in the snacks company

# Companies.

### Can a trust change its manager?

Most investment trusts are conceived of by the manager – Fundsmith set up the emerging equities trust itself but, once launched, it had to answer to the board.

But the board has the power to sack the manager of the trust. For example, the board of the Scottish Investment Trust last year removed Alasdair McKinnon after a long period of poor performance.

But, as in the case of Fundsmith, the manager can also quit. Smith said that Fundsmith's resignation was "in the best interests of shareholders" because performance had "fallen below our expectations".

### What happens then? Usually the board will alert other fund houses that there is a vacancy and invite them

to apply to take over. James Will, the chairman of the Scottish Investment Trust, said that 20 fund management groups outlined their interest in taking over after McKinnon's departure before the board chose JP Morgan Asset Management.

The trust was merged with another, JP Morgan Global Growth & Income, and because it marked a big change in investment style, shareholders were offered the chance to exit.

Sometimes the trust continues running as usual, but with a different manager at the helm. When Mark Barnett was removed from Edinburgh Investment Trust in 2019, its running was taken over by Majedie (since acquired by Liontrust).

The other option for the board is to shut the trust, as with Fundsmith Emerging Equities.

# Now what? The Fundsmith board has

proposed the liquidation of the trust, but shareholders must vote 75 per cent in favour for it to go ahead. The board and Fundsmith's partners and staff, who own a total of 5.68 per cent of all shares, have indicated that they will vote for liquidation.

If they do, the trust will go into in voluntary liquidation in November and Fundsmith will start to sell all the shares that it owns. Investors should get about 85 per cent of their cash within a month, but some holdings will take longer to sell.

If you hold shares in the trust outside of a tax wrapper such as a Sipp (self-invested personal pension) or an Isa, you could be liable to pay capital gains tax on the profits that you've made above the £12,300 capital gains allowance.

# THE VICTIMS STILL WAITING



# £5K OF HIS PENSION LOST IN FUND

The business development manager from Southport said: "The FCA has failed abysmally to deal with the mess it created. A £300 million redress is not going to go anywhere near close enough to compensate investors who feel misled about the Woodford fund." Brown, 65, has joined group litigation instigated by the law firm Leigh Day.



### PETER BLYTH £75K IN FUND WHEN IT FROZE

The retired entrepreneur, 69, from Milton Keynes, said: "Why is a company like Link in charge of ensuring investors' money is protected when it failed to do so on two other occasions?

"The FCA should have stepped in years ago. It seems absurd that the regulator is investigating Link when it too has questions to answer."

# WHAT ABOUT COMPENSATION?

Some investors have signed up for class action litigation against Woodford, Link and the investment platform Hargreaves Lansdown.

The law firm Leigh Day represents investors, and says that a settlement would be separate to any redress that regulators order the companies to pay. The case

rests on whether any of these firms failed in their duty of care to investors. Documents show that Hargreaves repeatedly raised questions with the manager and Link about high-risk unquoted shares held in the Woodford Equity Income fund. Its requests for specific details of share values were turned down or

met with reassurances from Woodford himself that the risks were overblown. Few of the concerns were passed on to Hargreaves customers.

When the fund was closed in October 2019, ordinary investors did not know that Woodford's stake in unquoted companies had breached the regulatory 10 per cent limit

more than once. At one point unquoted holdings made up almost 20 per cent of the fund, the FCA said. Hargreaves had not been

notified of any breaches. Link and Woodford say they abided by all rules. The FCA has acknowledged that there was no obligation to pass on details of breaches.

# **James Coney**

# The job where it is almost impossible to be sacked

ome careers advice: don't become a journalist. The hours can be rubbish, entrylevel pay is appalling, and no matter how accurate your story is there is always someone on the internet who will insist that you're wrong. Plus, hardly anyone is ever straight with you (more on that in a minute).

No, for an easy life become an authorised corporate director (ACD). Good pay, decent hours, and you are totally unaccountable. No matter how badly you do, no one will ever sack you,

even though being an incompetent ACD leads to thousands of ordinary savers losing millions of pounds. What a gig!

What on earth is an ACD? After all, it's not a role that comes up when you meet a school careers adviser.

ACDs are supposed to be the stewards of your life savings. They are the (supposedly) independent companies that ensure unit trust fund managers do what the say they are going to do with your cash and stick to the rules. Investment trusts have a board and a chairman. plus voting shareholders who can sack a fund manager. Unit trusts have the ACD, and the biggest one of the lot in the UK is Link Fund Solutions.

But Link is useless. In 2012, when it was known as Capita Financial Managers, it had to pay £32 million after it was found to have had inadequate processes during the Arch Cru fund scandal that lost investors £250 million.

Then, in 2017, it was publicly censured and ordered to pay £66 million over its role in the mis-selling of a high-risk scheme called the Connaught Income Fund.



**Fund bosses** forget that the money they look after is ours, not theirs

At the time the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), the regulator, which is not known for being outspoken, said Link had "failed badly" Of course, when the fund management industry found that a firm that is supposed to protect our money had been dangerously incompetent twice, it did what it usually does. Nothing.

Two bosses at Link were involved in both scandals, Chris Addenbrooke and Karl Midl. Neither was sacked. Which brings us up to the Woodford scandal, which Addenbrooke and Midl were also involved in. As careers case studies these two are shining examples. Not only have they survived two scandals, they are among the directors at Link who have shared millions in payouts, before and after. Last week they racked up a hat-trick when it was

£309 million for its role as Woodford's ACD. Since 2019, when the Woodford scandal erupted, the fund management industry has closed ranks. As the lawsuits against Link, Woodford and

announced that the FCA was

minded to make Link pay

Hargreaves Lansdown (which promoted the fund) mounted, as Woodford tried to restart his career, as regulators opened their investigations, they largely said nothing, despite the enormous reputational damage that was being done.

The logic was that they would wait for a formal announcement before doing anything. Three years on, they have the clearest indication yet that regulators are keen to punish those involved. That raises huge concerns about Link's role in looking after our savings.

Confidence in this industry is being eroded with every day of inaction. Back to my point that

no one wants to be straight with a journalist. Last week we called dozens of fund managers that use Link to ask what they were planning to do. Only one or two replied with anything other than "no comment". Same old fund managers, protecting their own, forgetting that the money they look after is ours, not theirs. Who would want to be a journalist? Better to be an ACD instead. @jimconey

# **WE'RE PAYING MORE FOR FOOD** Weekly prices per kilogram of ... 🔷 Gala apples 🦩 Bananas £1.4 1.3 1.2 0.9 8.0 0.7 0.6 2020 2021 2022 So what is

🤷 Annual growth in fuel prices 🔷 Amount bought per transaction 40 30 Feb 2021

... AND BUYING LESS FUEL

**WE'RE BORROWING MORE** Annual growth in consumer credit Credit cards Other loans and advances

societies that is earning nothing at all.

Inflation at 9.9 per cent means that this

the real state of our finances today?

David Byers reveals the charts that show exactly what we are doing with our money

# FOOD COSTS ARE SOARING

Food is one of the largest drivers of inflation at the moment, but not all foods are contributing equally.

The price of a kilogram of apples has risen from £1 to £1.25 in little over a fortnight. Growers of gala apples, many of which are in the UK, say that a shortage of seasonal labour after Brexit and rising energy prices have driven up prices. Bananas, meanwhile, are 91p a kilo, which is roughly what they cost in February. They are cheaper than they were in 1987. What keeps the cost low is that bananas are almost entirely imported through large supply chains from Latin America, the Caribbean and west Africa,

which have become more effi-

cient over the years. The consumer prices index, a measure of inflation, was at 9.9 per cent for the year to August, down slightly from 10.1 per cent in the year to July. That was largely driven by a fall in petrol prices. Food is up 13.4 per cent on this time last year, prompting us to change our shopping habits as we try to keep costs down.

# HABITS ARE CHANGING

There are other ways that inflation is affecting our lifestyles. Petrol reached a record high of 191p a litre in July after Russia invaded Ukraine, but has fallen by 26p since then. Diesel rose from 111.88p on December 1 to a July 1 high of 199p, but

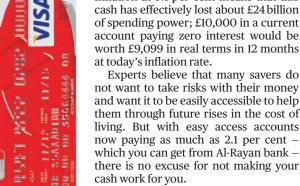
how much petrol we buy. Analysis by the Office for National Statistics shows that when prices rose sharply in June and July we filled up less often and put less in our tanks. The average amount of fuel bought per transaction dropped 22 per cent from February 27 to

is now down to 182p. This has had an effect on

# WE'RE DAMAGING OUR SAVINGS

A huge chunk of the savings built up during the pandemic by workers who couldn't go out and spend their money ended up in accounts that pay little or no interest. There is now £265.5 billion stashed away in banks and building





"It seems that many people just haven't got the memo about leaving money in cash," Anna Bowes from the financial advice website Savings Champion said. "More savers need to get the message that they must switch to do all they can to protect themselves."

# **IHERE'S A RACE TO SAFETY**

With inflation, interest rate rises, the war in Ukraine and a volatile stock market, it is no wonder that many savers are seeking safety.

Until last year investors had enjoyed more than 12 years of soaring stock market returns, largely driven by highgrowth firms such as technology businesses, the values of which have been on a seemingly endless upwards spiral. Since January, however, the S&P 500 in the US is down 16.9 per cent, and the FTSE 100 has fallen 1.6 per cent.

Rising interest rates and inflation have caused some investors to take profits in a rush of withdrawals. Others are pulling money out of the volatile market to seek safety in other commodities, cash or government bonds.

There was a net outflow of £12 billion from investment funds between January and June this year, the first time in a decade that more money has been taken out than put in.

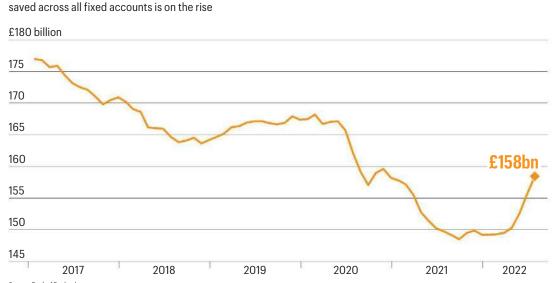
# YOU CAN EARN MORE FROM YOUR CASH

The Bank of England base rate has gone from 0.1 per cent in December 2021 to 1.75 per cent last month, and it could rise again by as much as 0.75 percentage points when the monetary policy committee meets on Thursday. While

that poses problems for mortgage borrowers, who face a spike in repayments, it means that for the first time since the financial crisis in 2008 savers are being rewarded. The average rate on a one-year

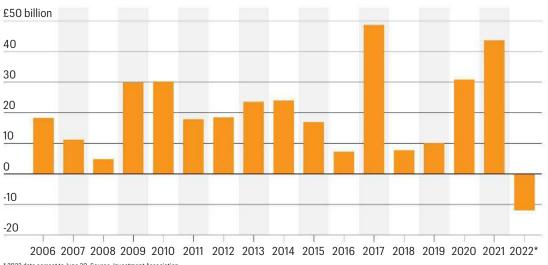
**WE ARE EARNING MORE ON OUR SAVINGS** 

Rates on two-year fixes have hit 3.5% and the amount



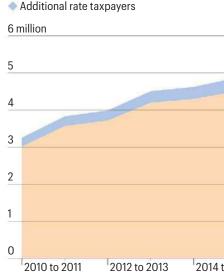
# ... BUT WE ARE FLEEING THE MARKET

Net investment in stock market and bond funds by UK investors is below zero



# **WE'RE PAYING MORE TAX ...**

Higher rate taxpayers



# Loyalty pays if you are taking out a mortgage

# **George Nixon**

It is often said that loyalty does not pay, but borrowers looking to remortgage could save thousands by sticking with their current lender because mortgage companies are offering better rates to existing customers.

At Barclays you can get a 3.13 per cent two-year fix at 60 per cent loan-to-value (LTV) if you are already a customer, while new borrowers pay 4.08 per cent – an extra £103 a month for a £200,000 25-year mortgage.

Metro Bank has a 3.59 per cent five-year fix at up to 75 per cent LTV for existing borrowers, but offers new customers 4.79 per cent -£134 more a month on a £200,000 mortgage.

At NatWest the gap is narrower, but existing customers can still get a better deal. They can get a 3.85 per cent two-year fix at up to 60 per cent LTV while new customers are offered 4.08 per cent.

Lenders have been reluctant to offer marketleading rates because they



sense for banks to be competitive

Rate for Metro Bank clients.

Newcomers pay 4.79%

are struggling to cope with an influx of applications. Last week *Money* reported that some deals were being pulled within 24 hours of launch, but experts say that lenders

are still keen to retain the customers they already have. Chris Sykes from the mortgage broker Private Finance said: "The benefits of retaining existing clients are higher because these clients are less costly to service. It makes sense to try to retain this business by offering more competitive rates.'

Homeowners coming to the end of a fixed mortgage face considerably higher rates than when they locked in. The Bank of England has hiked the base rate of interest six times since December and is expected to do so again this week from its current level of 1.75 per cent.

Borrowers can usually arrange a new deal up to six months before their current fix ends. At Barclays it is five months, up from three. HSBC has increased its window from three months to four and NatWest from four months to six

# Split up your savings to make the most of those rising rates

# **George Nixon**

Savers hoping to snag a better interest rate could end up out of pocket if they wait too long.

Most fixed-rate bonds allow you up to 14 days to deposit your cash after you open an account. Savers who do not pay in any money can move elsewhere if a better rate comes up.

But waiting will cost you if a better deal does not materialise because you will miss out on 14 days' worth of

interest. The best one-year bond rate is 3.4 per cent from Charter Savings Bank. Savers with £10,000 would earn £340 interest a year. Waiting two weeks to deposit your cash would mean that you lost £13.04 in interest, according to the consumer website Savings Champion.

To make up for the lost interest, you would need to find a bond paying at least 3.53 per cent. This is not beyond the realms of possibility because savings rates have been rising since December, but it is a gamble.

The savings platform Raisin UK recommends a "staircase" approach where you split your savings across different bonds of varying lengths. Savers with £20,000 could put half in Charter's one-year bond and the rest in the same bank's two-year bond, which pays 3.7 per cent, for example.

The Raisin UK cofounder Kevin Mountford said: "With the staircase strategy, interest can be earned quickly and savers can still take advantage of future interest rate increases.

The longer you tie up your money, the more interest you typically earn. The Bank of London and the Middle East's premier deposit account pays 3.75 per cent, but you have to lock up your money for five

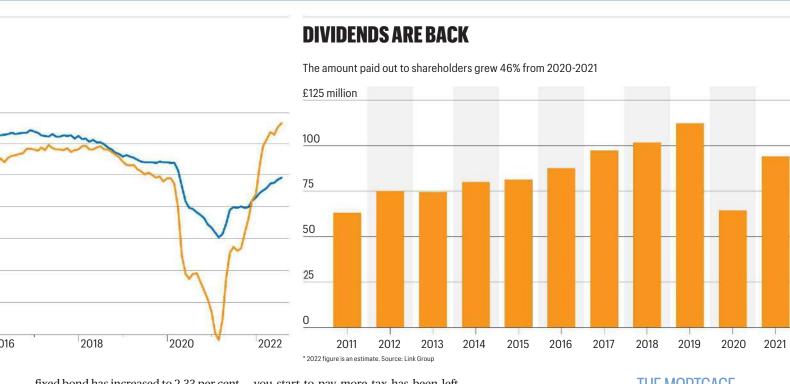
It is important to check for

penalties on fixed-term accounts. You may forfeit some or all of the interest if you need your cash early.

Savers must balance the need to earn more interest now with the possibility of rates climbing further. The Bank of England is

expected to increase interest rates again this week, but Mountford said: "Even if interest rates continue to rise, savers should take action

"Every day there are millions of pounds sitting in low to no-interest accounts, like current accounts, losing value as it is hit by the full force of inflation.'



fixed bond has increased to 2.33 per cent from 0.69 per cent a year ago; the average you will get on a two-year bond is 2.51 per cent instead of 0.77 per cent last year. If you lock up your money for three years you will get an average of 2.72 per cent, up from 1.01 per cent, and for five years the average is 2.95 per cent compared with 1.17 per cent, according to the analytics company Moneyfacts.

The best one-year fixed rate is 3.4 per cent, from Bank of London and the Middle East. The best two-year fixed rate is 3.55 per cent, from Close Brothers, and the best three-year fixed rate is 3.61 per cent, from SmartSave.

The amount of money being put into fixed-rate accounts has climbed steeply from a low of £148 billion at the end of 2021 to £158 billion today

# DIVIDENDS ARE RETURNING

Growth in the stock market may be stuttering, but at least you can earn an income. The Covid lockdowns that shut down economies in 2020 left many companies without revenue because they could not, for example, open their pubs

As a result, dividend payments were slashed dramatically. Some £64.4 million was paid in dividends by UK companies in 2020, the lowest level since 2011, according to the data provider Link Group. This was bad news for investors, and particularly for those pensioners relying on their investments to provide income. But as businesses have reopened, companies have rewarded loyal investors. Dividends rose 46 per cent to £94.1 million in 2021, and could hit £96.3 million this year, according to

# **IHERE'S A TAX TRAP**

There have been tax changes that we have all heard about, and felt in our pockets, such as the

1.25 percentage point increase in national insurance contributions. But there are other stealth tax tricks that are reducing the takeworkers.

What is known as fiscal drag is you are pulled in to a higher tax bracket because the earn ings point at which

you start to pay more tax has been left unchanged or has moved up at a slower rate than wage increases

Higher-rate tax kicks in once your income exceeds £50,270. You pay the higher rate on income between £50,271 and £150,000 (or between £43,663 and £150,000 in Scotland). Higher-rate tax is charged at 40 per cent (41 per cent in Scotland).

According to HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), 5.5 million people are expected to pay higher-rate tax in 2022-23 – a 43.9 per cent jump from the 3.83 million who paid the higher rate in 2019-20. In 2010-11, when the Conservatives came to power, there were 3 million

higher-rate taxpayers. The same impact is being felt by additional-rate taxpayers, who pay 45 per cent tax on the portion of their income above £150,000. There were 236,000 additional-rate taxpayers in 2010-11, compared with an expected 629,000 in 2022-23, according to

# DEBT LEVELS ARE WORRYING

Banks say that so far there are no signs of large-scale distress among their customers. People are feeling the effects of higher prices for food, energy, fuel and general living costs, but have not yet stopped paying their mortgages and loans.

Some households are taking on more debt, however.

Credit card borrowing was up £740 million from June to July, a 13 per cent increase compared with the same month in 2021 and the biggest monthly rise since October 2005, according to the Bank of England.

Debt charities suggest that more of us are spending money we do not have as prices rise.

Personal loans are on the increase too. Paul Heywood from the credit scoring agency Equifax UK said: "The most vulnerable have run out of quick fixes, which is why we continue to see considera ble growth in demand for credit."

overdraft Banks' nterest rates are rising, up from an average of 21 per cent in February 2020 to 35 per cent today

ges – but not all equally. If you look at the data you will see that two-year mortgages always used to be the cheapest when rates were stable, with five-year loans more expensive and ten-year fixes far pricier. This is because banks did not foresee much of a short-term risk of rates rising. and were more nervous of the long term.

more expensive, average five-year rates are lower than two-year ones, sitting at 3.61 per cent compared with 3.64 per cent, according to the Bank of England. This is because lenders believe there is a high chance of short-term rate rises, which makes shorter fixes more risky for them. Five-year fixes are safer for banks. The starkest illustration of this attitude to risk is in ten-year mortgages, which used to be hugely more expensive, but now are

Another change is the narrowing of the differential for different deposit sizes. It used to be the case that those with the biggest deposits were rewarded with significantly lower rates. For example, in October 2020 someone with a 40 per cent deposit would have been offered an average rate of 1.46 per cent and someone who had a 5 per cent deposit would

those with a 40 per cent deposit and 4.15 per cent for those with a  $\hat{5}$  per cent

to value loans have become less risky for lenders. The government's mortgage guarantee scheme, launched in April 2021 and ending at the end of this year, supported lenders to offer traditionally riskier loans by issuing guarantees to

# RENTS ARE RISING

Across the UK rents are at an average of £1,126 a month, up 3.5 per cent on the April to June quarter and 11.8 per cent higher than a year ago. In London rents hit an average of £2,257 a month, up

# THE MORTGAGE GAP IS CLOSING

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AND CHEAP MORTGAGES ARE DISAPPEARING

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only fractionally so, at 3.73 per cent.

have paid 3.95 per cent.

Now, it is 3.51 per cent on average for

This is partly because 95 per cent loan

About 4.4 million households pay rent in England, alongside 340,000 in Scotland and just over 200,000 in Wales. Rents have grown by 19 per cent in two years, according to Rightmove.

When the base rate rises, so do mortga-

Now, while all deals have become

15 per cent in a year.

Analysts say landlords are putting up prices to help with some of the bills they faced during the pandemic. Reduced supply has also been a factor.

# Ian Cowie Personal Account

# Keep your trendy oat milk. I'm sticking to the burgers

his might be the start of a new era in more ways than one; for the stock market as well as the monarchy. While constitutional experts mull over the new Carolean age, investors should consider how the winds of change are blowing through economies, creating new winners and losers.

Higher commodity prices, inflation and interest rates have increased the opportunity cost of owning assets that pay low or no income today, while seeking capital growth in future. That's why former high-flying funds and shares that promise "jam tomorrow" have left many followers of fashion out of pocket.

For example, I explained here in May last year why I wouldn't be jumping on the \$10 billion float of the fake milk fad Oatly (stock market ticker: OTLY). Instead, I preferred shares in profitable firms with an interest in vegetarian trends, including the cereals giant Archer Daniels Midland (ADM), the burger flipper McDonald's (MCD) and the world's biggest food company, Nestlé (NESN).

Since then, this trusty triumvirate of ADM, MCD and NESN - respectively my fourth, third and sixth biggest shareholdings by value - have continued to deliver dividends and share price growth. Meanwhile, OTLY pays no income and has seen its share price plunge from a peak of \$29 in June last year to \$2.90 now.

By contrast, in August last year I also commented here on how climate change was affecting food production and reported topping up ADM shares I had bought for \$42 in May 2016, by buying more at \$59. The main attraction remains that ADM has distributed dividends every year since 1932 and increased shareholders' income every year since 1981. Now these shares are trading at \$85, albeit squeezing the yield down to 1.85 per cent.

This demonstrates how the discipline of dividends has been doubly rewarding recently, as the market price of reliable yielders has risen. So-called "growth" funds and shares are no longer all the rage as "value" comes back into vogue.

Jason Hollands from the investment platform Bestinvest, reminds me that Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) has tracked returns from rival portfolios of growth and value shares around the world since 1975. Despite recent decades in which growth shares outperformed, value shares still generated the highest total returns overall.

Hollands pointed out that £1,000 invested in the MSCI World Growth Index in 1975 has grown into just under £189,000 now. Meanwhile, the MSCI World Value Index turned the same sum into an eye-stretching £329,000. He said: "Growth stocks led markets during the recent period of ultra-low interest rates and bond yields. Yet over the longer term, value investing has outperformed most of the time. In particular, value was triumphant in the 1970s and the 1980s – a period with some similarities to today, such as high inflation, an oil crisis, industrial action and war overseas." Richard Hunter from Interactive Inves-

tor, another platform, agreed about the importance of income: "The FTSE 100 index has returned 5.1 per cent since the turn of the century in terms of share price appreciation only. However, if you include dividends reinvested, the total return is over 136 per cent. While no dividend is ever guaranteed, the benefits of reinvesting dividends over time continues to shine through."

Darius McDermott from Chelsea Financial Services recommended a balanced approach to preserve your purchasing power: "With inflation running into double digits, we have to make some adjustments to our investment thinking.

"As always, you do need diversification

and it is about a balance of growth and income. Growth stocks are no longer the only story in town and this may be the case for the next few years.'

Going from macroeconomics to a specific share, I have found a big medical technology stock yielding just over 3 per cent income, despite raising its dividends every year since 1977. The explanation is that Medtronic (MDT), the world's largest maker of medical kit such as heart pacemakers and insulin pumps, is currently out of favour following the recall of some allegedly faulty products and missing market expectations on earnings.

As a result, I was able to buy shares for \$89 this month that cost \$133 last year. According to independent statisticians Refinitiv, this \$117 billion business enjoys a gross profit margin of 68 per cent and has raised dividends by an annual average of 7.9 per cent over the last five years.

If that rate is sustained – which is not guaranteed - it would double shareholders' income in less than a decade because of the way compounding makes dividends grow on dividends over time. Paying less than 23 times corporate earnings does not seem excessive for this medical giant that made more than half the pacemakers fitted to patients worldwide.

After all, if I needed such medical assistance, almost any price for quality would represent value. Something similar can be said about some shares, delivering healthy income or growth or a mixture of both. Dividend-yielding compounders could support market valuations in the Carolean era.

The dividend yield on Medtronic shares that Cowie bought for \$89

### Lamenting my losses Shakespeare buffs in the Square Mile

sometimes say: "When sorrows come, they come not single spies, but in battalions." Less literary types observe that share prices go up by climbing the stairs but come down in the lift.

It felt just like that last week when higher than expected inflation figures fuelled fears that the US central bank will hike base rates next week, crashing heavily indebted global economies. The Dow Jones index of blue chip Yankee stocks dropped 4 per cent on Tuesday.

Wednesday proved a bad day for two businesses close to my wallet. Helium One Global (HE1), the speculative gas exploration outfit, announced drilling delays that wiped 18 per cent wiped off its share price to trade at 6p. Ouch! Worse still, ITM Power (ITM), the

Sheffield-based maker of "green hydrogen", revealed that its chief executive will be leaving without it first having attended to the formalities of finding a replacement. This rattled Mr Market, who marked the stock down by 25 per cent to £1.26 on Wednesday.

But I didn't sell any shares because I continue to believe that HE1 is either worth much more, if it finds gas before it runs out of cash, or nothing at all.

Similarly, after first investing in ITM more than a decade ago, I have seen big swings before - and took out more money than I put in by selling five-figure parcels at £5.39 and £4.46 last year.

Less happily, I fear there might be worse to come but can't describe rising anxiety better than the Bard: "Light thickens, and the crow makes wing to the rooky wood. Good things of day begin to droop and drowse, while night's black agents to their preys do rouse."

# Average two-year fixed rates 4.5% interest 2018 to 2019 2020 to 2021 Jan 2021 Jan 2022 2016 to 2017

# TIMESRADIO

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Full live coverage of the funeral on Monday, starting at 10am and continuing throughout the day. Matt Chorley, Mariella Frostrup and John Pienaar will be joined by a range of royal experts and guests plus reporters among the crowds in London and Windsor.

# Should you give up trying to get on the ladder?

First-time buyers may be weighing up the odds of property ownership, but it still beats renting, says Lily Russell-Jones

he dream of signing the deeds on a home of your own is getting further out of reach for first-time buyers as wages fail to keep pace with inflation. The consumer prices measure of inflation was 9.9 per cent in the year to August. The average house price was £294,000, up 11.5 per cent in a year according to Halifax.

The Bank of England has raised the base rate from 0.1 per cent to 1.75 per cent since December, pushing up mortgage rates by 30 per cent on average for firsttime buyers taking out 90 per cent loans, according to the property portal Rightmove. Worse is to come if the base rate goes up another 0.75 per cent when the Bank meets next week.

First-timers have made up 26 per cent of property buyers this year, up from 14.6 per cent ten years ago, according to the estate agency Hamptons. But in August there was a dip to 25.5 per cent, from 27.4 per cent in January.

# Can I afford to buy a house?

Typically first-time buyers need to put down 10 per cent of a property's value -£29,000 on average. You should also factor in stamp duty, solicitor's fees and mortgage fees. Solicitor costs are usually between £500 and £1,500 while mort-

gage fees can cost £1,000. Then there is the cost of furnishing your new home. If the property is leasehold, factor in any ground rent or maintenance charges.

"It's important to have a comprehensive view of your finances," said Myron Jobson from the investment platform Interactive Investor. "You might be able to afford a mortgage now, but will you be able to cover life's emergency expenses?" Jobson advises having emergency savings equivalent to three months' salary.

### Is now a good time to buy?

Nobody wants to plough all your money into an asset only to watch it fall in value. But even the experts disagree on where the property market is heading, so there is no point obsessing over timing.

What happens to house prices is the million dollar question for next year," said Aneisha Beveridge from the estate agent Hamptons. "Prices could fall, but it's highly likely that mortgage costs will be higher than today, which will make it more expensive to buy."

Hamptons predicts that house prices will flatline at the end of 2023 before rising again. The think tank Capital Economics predicts they will fall 5 per cent by the end of 2024.

'Trying to time the housing market is nigh on impossible," said Jobson. "All the hallmarks of a slowdown are there, but that doesn't necessarily mean that house prices will slow any time soon."

First-time buyers typically hold on to their homes for a few years before selling and climbing the ladder. If you buy now and the property market dips, there should be time for the value to recover. Falling into negative equity – where you owe more on your mortgage than the



# **BUT WE FELT WE**

Patrice Gilead and Luke Murphy met when they had both moved back in with their parents to save money. Gilead, 27, an estate agent was £5,000 in debt five years ago but found a new job that paid commission and moved in with her parents in Isleworth, west London, where she paid £400 a month in rent and

She saved more than £20,000 for a house deposit and had planned to buy a one-bedroom home. But

after finding a two-bedroom flat in Slough that was out of her budget, she asked Murphy, 27, who was living next door with his parents. to buy it with her. The couple moved into their home in July and are expecting a baby.

"Just a few hours after we signed for the mortgage we found out I was pregnant, so it was perfect," said Gilead.

They secured a 20 per cent loan for the £380,000 flat in a new development on the former site of a Horlicks factory through the government's Help to Buy scheme. That paid off £76,000 and they took out a 35-year loan for £285,000 fixed at 4.8 per cent for five years. They have monthly

repayments of £1,350. The Help to Buy loan is interest-free for five years.

Gilead paid a deposit of £19,000, plus £7,000 in solicitors' fees and stamp duty, which was more than she had expected. Murphy, an air freight controller, did not contribute to the deposit but having him on the mortgage meant that they could borrow more.

Gilead said it would cost £1,300 to rent a similar flat in the building, so buying made sense despite rising mortgage rates and

property prices. "I had been waiting for a couple of years to move out and I didn't want to put things on hold. It was a bit of a risk, but we couldn't see a

The couple are saving £1,500 a month so that they have enough to cover mortgage payments, energy bills and other living costs when Gilead goes on maternity leave in November

for first-time buvers.

She said: "We are going halves on the bills and mortgage payments, and saving up to pay back the government loan. Even minus the baby I don't think I could have done it all by myself."

The Help to Buy loan scheme, where the government lends up to 20 per cent of a home's value, (40 per cent in London) ends in October.

property is worth - is any buyer's biggest fear but it would take a significant dip for this to happen if you started with a deposit of 10 per cent or more.

Instead of fixating on future price movements, focus on finding an appropriate property within your budget.

locking in a rate now," said Beveridge.

"If you find a house that you love and will live in for at least a few years, you are probably better off getting on with it and

# Should I wait for rates to fall?

Rising interest rates will make mortgages less affordable for first-time buvers.

"Even with easier affordability tests, the hurdle that first-time buyers must clear has risen higher," said Lawrence Bowles from the estate agent Savills. "A rising cost of living along with rapid rental growth means it's more difficult for prospective buyers to save."

Interest rates are likely to keep rising. Hamptons predicts that the base rate will peak at 2.5 per cent in 2023 and fall back to 1.75 per cent in 2025. This means mortgage are likely to be cheaper now than in six months' time.

Rising rates are bad news for all buyers, but they are rising faster for those with more equity.

In October 2020, the average two-year fixed rate for those with a 5 per cent deposit was 3.95 per cent. Those with a 40 per cent deposit could get a deal at 1.46 per cent.

Last month buyers with a 5 per cent deposit could get a two-year fix at 4.15 per cent while those with 40 per cent deposit could get 3.51 per cent.

# Will I be better off renting?

Even with rising rates, buying is still likely to leave you better off than renting.

The rent on a £300,000 property would be about £1,450 a month. Taking out a two-year fixed-rate mortgage at August's 3.9 per cent average rate for those with a 10 per cent deposit would cost £1,415 a month - and that payment would go towards reducing your loan.

"Those who do manage to buy will still end up spending less on mortgage repayments than on rent for the same property," said Bowles.

"And with rates expected to peak in the next year, they'll benefit from rates falling as their first fixed term comes to an

# **Best Buys**

# **CURRENT ACCOUNTS**

CREDIT INTERES	ST .				
Provider	Account name	Account fee	Reward	Balance (for reward)	Contact
Halifax	Reward Current Account	None	£5 a month	_	0345 720 3040
Nationwide	FlexDirect	None	£5% AER	_	0800 30 20 10
TSB	Spend & Save	None	£5 a month	-	0345 975 8758

OTERDIAN IO	OTERDRAI IO								
Provider	Account name	Account fee	Interest rate <sup>1</sup>	<sup>1</sup> 0% overdraft limit Contact					
Starling Bank	Current Account	None	15%	£0	starlingbank.com				
First Direct	1st Account	None	39.9%	£250	0345 600 2424				
Virgin Money	M Plus Account	None	19.9%	£0	0800 678 3654				

1 Equivalent annual rate Based on overdraft of £500 for 7 days a month. me accounts require minimum funding/direct debits to open or receive rates shown.

Source: moneyfacts.co.uk

OVERDRAFTS \*



Introductory purchase

Introductory purchase Transfer fee<sup>2</sup>

# **CREDIT CARDS**

# **INTRODUCTORY RATES**

Card type

Card type

Long 0% BT MC

Longest 0% BT MC

Account name

Sainsbury's Bank Balance Transfer MC

Sainsburys	Dual Offer MC	0% for 24 months	21.9%	Yes	08085 40 50 60
M&S Bank	Shopping Offer Plus MC	0% for 24 months	21.9%	Yes	0800 997996
Barclaycard	Platinum Allrounder V	0% for 24 months	22.9%	No	0800 151 0900
DALANCE TRAN	erene				

0% for 34 months

0% for 34 months

0% for 34 months

# **MBNA** Halifax CASHRACK CARDS

Provider

Provider

CACIIDACK CARDO				
Provider	Card type	APR 1	Cashback	Contact
American Express	Platinum Cashback	31.3%	0.75%-1.25%. Intro 5% for 3 months	0800 917 8047
American Express	Platinum Cashback Everyday	26%	0.5%-1%. Intro 5% for 3 months	0800 917 8047
Halifay	Cookbook MC	10 00/	0.25 0.5%	0245 044 4555

1 APR = annual percentage rate, dependent on credit rating. 2 Fee charged on the amount of each balance transfer during the introductory period

2.88% (min £3) 21.9%

2.99% (no min) 21.9%

3.49% (no min) 21.9% 0345 944 4555

APR 1

Reward Contact

08085 40 50 60

0345 606 2062

Interest rate

# SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

# **INSTANT ACCESS**

Provide

		•		
Al Rayan	Everyday Saver Issue 3	£5,000	2.1%	alrayanbank.co.uk
Gatehouse Bank	Easy Access Account	£1,000	2%	gatehousebank.com
Raisin UK	Easy Access Account (by Hoist Finance)	£1,000	1.85%	raisin.co.uk
NATION LOCALINES				

Min deposit

# NOTICE ACCOUNTS

Provider	Account name	Notice period	Min deposit	Interest rate	Contact
Bank of London and the Middle East	t 90 Day Notice Account Issue 5	90 days	£1,000	2.5%	blme.com
Al Rayan	120 Day Notice Savings Account	120 days	No minimum	2.4%	alrayanbank.co.uk
Oaknorth	120 Day Notice Deposit Account Issue 22	2 120 days	£1	2.36%	oaknorth.co.uk

# **FIXED-RATE BONDS**

Provider	Account name	Term	Min deposit	Interest rate	Contact
Charter Savings Bank	1 Year Fixed Rate Bond	1 year	£5,000	3.4%	chartersavingsbank.co.uk
Hampshire Trust Bank	2 Year Bond Issue 71	2 years	£1	3.71%	htb.co.uk
Hampshire Trust Bank	3 Year Bond Issue 56	3 years	£1	3.8%	htb.com

DEALS ARE LISTED ONLY IF THEY ARE COVERED BY THE UK FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPENSATION SCHEME (FSCS) OR A EUROPEAN EQUIVALENT \*MUST HOLD A CURRENT ACCOUNT WITH THE PROVIDER



Ofgem's price cap abut may be lower

Supplier	Average annual bill	Rate	Contact				
No fixed rates on offer — variable rates limited by the price cap:							
Utility Warehouse	£1,961	V	0333 777 0777				
Octopus Energy	£1,969	V	0808 164 1088				
*Phone numbers provided will call through to theenergyshop.com switch support team. Source: theenergyshop.com — 0800 448 0205							

# FOREIGN









Contact



# MORTGAGES **2-YEAR FIXED RATES**

CURRENCY	2-YEAR FIXED RAT	2-YEAR FIXED RATES				14 11 11			
Interbank rates at 5pm	Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact		
on Friday, which show	Santander	3.79%	Fixed to 02.12.24	25%	£999	RS	0800 068 6064		
where the market is	Santander	3.89%	Fixed to 02.12.24	10%	£999	PV	0800 068 6064		
trading. They are not	Cambridge BS	3.99%	Fixed for 2 years	5%	£199	PV	0345 601 3344		
indicative of the rate you could get.	3-YEAR FIXED RAT	ES							

der	Rate	Scheme
entry BS	3.77%	Fixed to 28.02.26
entry BS	3.87%	Fixed for 28.02.26

Newcastle BS	4.85%	Fixed to 31.01.26	5%	£0	FPV	0345 606 4488
LONG-TERM FIXED	RATES					
Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact
HSBC	3.54%	Fixed to 31.03.28	60%	£999	RS	0800 494 999
Lloyds	3.65%	Fixed to 30.11.27	25%	£999	RS	0800 783 3534
First Direct	3.98%	Fixed for 5 years	10%	£490	LV	0800 482 448
Barclays	3.65%	Fixed to 30.11.32	40%	£999	LV	0333 202 7580
TRACKERS*/DISC	OUNTS					
Lender	Rate	Scheme	Denosit	Fee	Notes	Contact

Londor	Data	Cohomo	Donosit	Eco	Notes	Contact
FIRST-TIME BUYE	R / LOW DEPO	SIT				
First Direct	3.69%	Tracker+1.94% for term	25%	£490	ELV	0800 482 448
Newbury	2.34%	2.11% discount for 5 years	25%	£850	LV	01633 555 5777
Furness BS	2.69%	3.4% discount for 2 years	5%	£0	DV	0800 220 568
Daiciays	2.50%	Tracker + 0.75% for 2 years	40/0	1333	LLV	0333 202 7300

Lenaer	Kate	Scneme	Deposit	ree	Notes	Contact
Barclays	4.6%	Fixed to 30.11.24	5%	£0	BPV	0333 202 7580
Santander	4.14%	Fixed to 02.12.27	5%	£0	DPV	0800 068 6064
Barclays	3.45%	Fixed to 30.11.27	25%	£O	HPV	0333 202 7580
BUY TO LET					5	ā

Lender	Rate	Scheme	Deposit	Fee	Notes	Contact
			••••			
Leek United BS	3.95%	Fixed to 31.12.24	25%	£995	AV	0808 169 6680
TSB	4.79%	Fixed to 31.12.24	20%	£995	AV	0800 056 1088
Coventry BS	3.77%	Fixed to 29.02.28	35%	£0	LV	0800 121 8899

U = £500 Cashdack for purchases; E = No early repayment charge; F = £500 Cashdack for first-time duyers; H = Help to Buy;
L = Free legal work for remortgages; M = £300 cashback for purchases; N = £250 cash back for purchases; O = £250 cash back;
P = Purchases only; R - Free legal work and valuation for remortgages; S = Remortgage only; V = Free valuation
Source: landc.co.uk — 0800 373 300

# **CASH ISAs**

INSTANT ACCESS		N N					
Provider	Account name	Min deposit	Interest	Transfers in	Contact		
Santander	E-Isa Issue 15	£1	1.85%	Yes	santander.co.uk		
Coventry BS	Limited Access Online Isa Issue 3	3 £1	1.85%	Yes	coventrybuildingsociety.co		
FIXED RATE							

Provider	Account name	Term	Min deposit	Rate	Transfers in	Contact
Virgin Money	1 Year Fixed Rate e-Isa Issue 516	1 year	£1	3.02%	Yes	uk.virginmoney.com
Virgin Money	2 Year Fixed Rate e-Isa Issue 517	2 years	£1	3.27%	Yes	uk.virginmoney.com

Source: savingschampion.co.uk — 0808 178 5354



# CHILDREN'S ACCOUNTS

Provider	Account name	Account type	Min deposit	Interest rate	Contact
HSBC	MySavings	Regular Saver	£10	3.2%	hsbc.co.uk
Principality BS	Dylan Regular Savings Bond Issue 10	Regular Saver	£10	3.2%	principality.co.uk
Kent Reliance	Demelza Account Issue 7	Current Account	£10	3.05%	kentreliance.co.uk

Provider	Account name	Min deposit	Interest rate	Rate	Contact		
Monmouthshire	BS Junior Cash Isa Issue 4	4 £10	2.8%	Variable	monbs.co.uk		
Coventry BS	Junior Isa Issue 2	£1	2.6%	Variable	coventrybuildingsociety.co.uk		
Loughborough I	<b>BS</b> Junior Isa	£1	2.5%	Variable	theloughborough.co.uk		
Source: savingscl	namnion co uk — 0808 178	5354					



# **FIVE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT** THE OVER 65s **WORK TAX TRAP**

If you're thinking about heading back to work after retiring, beware of the pension tax trap. The Money Purchase Annual Allowance (MPAA) sounds complicated, but it simply means that once you start taking money from your pot, you don't get as much tax relief on any money you pay in.

Most savers can pay £40,000 a year into their pension and get tax relief (lower if you are a very high earner). But once you have "triggered" the MPAA by making a withdrawal from your pension, this drops to £4,000 a year.

Situations that trigger the MPAA include taking your entire pension as a lump sum, taking smaller lump sums from your pot, moving your pension into a "drawdown" investment product and taking an income from it, or by buying certain annuities.

There are ways of protecting your full allowance. You can take your tax-free cash lump sum and buy a lifetime annuity, which provides a guaranteed income for life, without triggering the MPAA. You could also take your taxfree lump sum and put your pot into drawdown, so long as you do not take an income from it, or cash in small pension pots worth less than £10,000.

Older savers are being warned about the MPAA after an extra 173,000 over-65s went back into the workforce between April and June, many taking on part-time work as living costs climb and stock markets fall.

**Imogen Tew** 

The Sunday Times September 18, 2022 **15** 

# From free beer to cheap insurance: make the most of your share perks

Stockholders can eat, shop and travel for less, but don't buy just for the freebies, warns David Brenchley

ancy some free beer or a discounted dinner? Then take a look at your investment portfolio. There are 20 companies offering investor perks such as vouchers, freebies and money off products and services - and you might need to own only a single share to benefit.

Although a free dessert may not be reason enough to invest in a business, taking advantage of the rewards on offer from a stock you want to buy anyway makes sense. Some perks could even help to offset the soaring cost of living.

Holding a single share in Legal & General, for example, will get you 25 per cent off life insurance premiums (10 per cent off if you are over 50). Shares are trading at £2.61. Owning one £3.82 share in the publisher Bloomsbury will get you a 35 per cent discount on its books.

But do not bank on these perks always being there, said Susannah Streeter from the investment manager Hargreaves Lansdown. "Offers and discounts should be seen as a minor and unreliable bonus of owning shares. Deals can often be withdrawn or significantly scaled back."

### How do you claim?

The brewer Young & Co requires you to own only one share (trading at £11.06) to



# SHARING IS CARING THE PERKS ON OFFER

Company	Shares needed	Cost	Perk
Adnams	1	£92	15% off meals and rooms
Bloomsbury Publishing	1	£4	35% off books
BT Group	1	£1.40	Money off phones and gadgets
Carnival	100	£790	Up to £150 credit on board cruises
Chapel Down	500	£105	25% off goods from the winery
Fuller Smith & Turner	1,000	£5,280	15% off food and drink; 10% off rooms
Irish Continental	1,000	£3,650	5%-20% off ferries and holidays
Legal & General	1	£2.66	10%-25% discounts on life insurance
Marston's	500	£227	30% off pub bills
Mitchells & Butlers	1	£1.72	20% off pub bills
Mulberry	500	£1,300	20% off various shops
Next	100	£6,058	one-off 25% discount in stores
Norwegian Cruise Line	100	£1,250	On-board credit up to £150
Renishaw	1	£36.10	Discounts on holidays
Safestore	100	£1,025	20%-25% off storage
Shepherd Neame	100 or 3,000	£705 or £21,150	Money off food and pub rooms
Telecom Plus	1,500	£26,700	10% off phone deals
The Restaurant Group	250	£115	25% off food and drink
Whitbread	64	£1,685	Free breakfasts and 10% off meals
Youngs & Co	1	£11.38	Money off beer
			*actimate based on share pri

\*estimate based on share price

get access to discounts, but you will need 1,000 shares at £5.13 each in its rival Fuller Smith & Turner to get a 15 per cent discount card.

How you claim your rewards varies depending on the company. Some, including the brewer Shepherd Neame and the retailer Next, give them out automatically as long as you hold enough shares. When you invest through a platform, you will need to ask to claim your perks, usually by phone or email. Some companies, such as the ferries operator Irish Continental, require you to contact them directly to claim your reward. For others, including BT, which offers shareholders gadgets such as fitness trackers, you must have a share certificate.

All the large investment platforms help customers to take advantage of shareholder perks. They arrange for vouchers, cards and other details to be sent to you when you contact the platform, although in some instances investors must contact the company themselves.

Some perks can be claimed only if you invest by a certain date and others, such



as Mulberry, are not available if you hold

the company's shares through a self-

prolific for giving out discount vouchers or loyalty cards for shareholders.

Young's, Fuller Smith & Turner, Marston's, Mitchells & Butlers, Adnams and Shepherd Neame all offer their shareholders cards or vouchers for money off food, drink and hotel accommodation.

The Restaurant Group, which owns Wagamama and Frankie & Benny's, gives vouchers that cut your bill by 25 per cent. The Kent-based wine producer Chapel Down offers a one-off 25 per cent discount voucher or a privilege card with various discounts, depending on how many shares you own.

Whitbread's shareholder benefit card gets you 10 per cent off at its restaurants and free breakfasts at Premier Inn.

The cruise operators Carnival and Norwegian Cruise Line give shareholders onboard credit of up to £150, depending on the length of the cruise.

Irish Continental offers discounts on passenger and car ferry services, including 20 per cent off journeys between Ireland and Britain.

Investors in the engineering company Renishaw can get discounts on package holidays booked through its subsidiary Wotton Travel. One £35.38 share is enough to claim the discount.

# Other sectors

Shareholders in the phone, gas and electricity supplier Telecom Plus can get 10 per cent off.

Owning 100 Next shares will get you a one-off 25 per cent discount in shops. Mulberry shareholders can save 20 per cent on up to £5,000 of spending each year in certain shops while the firm Safestore offers 25 per cent off storage and 20 per cent off packing materials.

Perks should, however, not be a reason to invest in any company. Streeter said: "Investors need to assess the fundamentals of the business. It would be highly unwise to stuff a portfolio with shares simply offering perks, or even skew your holdings to that effect. Investors should build up a wide portfolio of diversified holdings across different geographies, sectors and ideally asset classes.

# Better rate and a £50 bonuson new Isas

# **George Nixon**

The gap between the best rates on Isas and savings accounts is continuing to narrow – and both are rising.

Santander now offers the top easy-access Isa rate of 1.85 per cent, the highest oneyear fixed rate Isa at 3 per cent and the highest two-year fixed Isa at 3.25 per cent.

Savers who transfer an existing Isa balance of £10,000 or more into the Santander accounts will also get a £50 voucher valid at more than 100 retailers, including Aldi and John Lewis.

After a year the rate on the easy-access Isas falls to 0.1 per cent.

It is unusual for high street banks to offer the best savings rates because they already sit on billions of pounds of cash in current accounts and so do not need to be competitive to raise more cash.

Coventry Building Society also pays 1.85 per cent on its limited-access online Isa. You can make up to six withdrawals a year without incurring a penalty.

The gap between the best easy-access savings rate - 2.1 per cent from Al Rayan Bank – and the best Isa rate is now only 0.25 percentage The points. difference between the best one-year fixed-rate bond – 3.4 per cent from Charter Savings Bank and the best one-year Isa is 0.4 percentage points, down from almost 1 percentage point two weeks ago.

Isa rates are generally lower than standard savings rates because they are not offered by as many of the challenger banks, which tend to offer the best rates to attract customers. Isas can also be more costly for banks to administer because the tax-free accounts have to meet HMRC rules when it comes to transferring them.

You could be taxed on interest you earn from a standard savings account. Basic-rate taxpayers can earn £1,000 in interest tax-free and higherrate taxpayers up to £500.

in the Sixties, trying to buy a

house. I thought we would

never manage it. It did not

take as long as it does today,

but at the time it seemed for

Today they do have the

Grandma and Grandad. That

concept did not exist in my

landed poshos. Please don't

the population was in rented

accommodation. When I was

at school, in the Forties and

Fifties, almost everyone I

knew was like my family:

living in a council house.

out what little they had

They had no capital and no

savings; the war had wiped

managed to save. There was

no family help possible when we wanted to buy a property.

Today there is indeed

of Mum and Dad operates

across all classes, as long as

the old folks own some bricks

and mortar. It is all, of course,

And who are reaping the

oldies, knocking back a bottle

cruise ships, but our children

and grandchildren. They are

work, savings, sensible living

They are grateful, mostly,

but that does not stop them

feeling hard done by or, even

worse, being offended by the

slightest little thing. I am not

just thinking of the woke generation, yawn yawn, but

benefiting from the hard

and now generosity of

previous generations.

based on luck, thanks to the

enormous rise in property

main benefits? Not just we

of wine a day, filling up the

prices these last 40 years.

awful poverty, but the Bank

day, not unless you were

argue; you weren't there. In the postwar years, half

ever and meant sacrifices.

Bank of Mum and Dad, or

more likely the Bank of

generally how they have been indulged, told how wonderful they were from the day they were born, how clever, how pretty: "Good gracious, he can suck his thumb," "She said her first word,

No one fussed over us when we were children. I was down the pit at three, up the chimney at five. OK, silly joke. But we did not get driven to school, which happens in all classes today, taken to restaurants, on holidays, given the latest gadgets. There had been a war on. We were brought up to make our

own amusements. I never got pocket money, nor did my sisters or brother. Aged 15 I was doing two jobs before and after school, delivering papers and groceries, otherwise I would not have been able to buy my Raleigh Lenton sports bike on

the never-never. Now our local newsagents can't get paper boys or girls. The young won't get out of bed in the morning.

There were no such thing as teenagers when I was growing up. No teenage music, clothing, styles. I expected when I grew up to wear the same clothes and haircut as my dad. It was when rock'n'roll arrived that everything changed, thank goodness.

Now the young are the focal point of all families. They are fed and fêted, pampered and praised. Dear gawd, they are even listened to. It is not just the family, the whole of popular culture, TV and magazines, advertising, commerce is obsessed by youth and the youth market. The papers and mags are filled with columns by twenty somethings going on about their sex life. As if no one else has any. The youth market has to be catered for above all because it is presumed to be influential, with money to spend. Which of course is bollocks. And they don't even buy papers or watch telly.

I heard you, I am turning into an old git. Don't say it. At least I am a very happy one. The young today might get all the attention, but we have the money. Ha ha ha ha. Love in Old Age: My Year in the Wight House by Hunter Davies is out now, £21.99

# Be grateful for the bank of mum and dad. Us oldies never had it

Yes, our generation got lucky with house prices, but we also had it tough and worked hard, says Hunter Davies

bviously I feel sorry for the young. Poor things, it's the first time they've been young, so what do they know? They have yet to be old. That'll fettle them. But it's all their moans I am

getting fed up with. All these twentysomethings went on endlessly about how they suffered under Covid, as if they were the only ones who caught it, the only ones who had their lives ruined. Yes. they had a bad time at uni all that expense and none of the fun. Not even any proper lectures, poor petals.

Just this week I heard a 22year-old talking about the loss of three years, almost all of her adult life, and how she should be compensated. In the US there is a campaign for all those under 30 to be paid \$3,000 dollars to make up for the rotten time they had. God give me strength.

The young can easily make it up. They have, on average, 60 years of fun ahead of them: plenty of time to forget all the Covid horrors and move on.

What about the old? I am 86. Let's say I have four years to go, as long as I cut down on the wine and keep taking the tablets. I am banking on getting to 90, or else I want my money back. So losing the past two years of travel, fun, family gatherings, social events and freedom has been a massive chunk out of whatever is left. 'Snot fair.

No, I don't want compensation, even though in my lifetime I have paid more tax than most of them ever will. I reckon, in the 65 years since I started work, I



# many of the young, I feel constantly **lucky for** everything Ihad

have probably contributed £5 million to the economy. Yes, I have had a lot back free education, medical treatment and, best of all, a free bus pass, hurrah – but unlike many of the young, who are so quick to blame others (and particularly the older generation), I am totally grateful. I feel constantly lucky to be alive.

The other thing they moan about is that they can't buy a house or flat, or rent a halfdecent hovel, even when they have a good job.

That is true, and that is tough. But it was tough for us





# **FAME AND FORTUNE RICHARD CORRIGAN**

# Tlose £5k a year to dine and dashers who don't pay'

The chef who says that life is too short to resist good wine grew up milking cows on the family farm, but now has his own country estate and once cooked for the Queen, he tells *Samantha Rea* 

escribed by AA Gill as a "fat Irish genius", Richard Corrigan is the chef behind the London restaurants Daffodil Mulligan, Corrigan's Mayfair and Bentley's Oyster Bar & Grill. A four-time winner of *Great* British Menu, Corrigan, 58, held Michelin stars at Lindsay House in Soho and Fulham Road in Chelsea. He published his memoir The Clatter of Forks and Spoons in 2008 and went on to appear in MasterChef: the Professionals but is still not averse to scooting off on the trail of diners who have dashed without paying. Corrigan lives with his wife, Maria, in north London and spends time in Ireland at his 18th century country estate Virginia Park Lodge in Co Cavan, and the Park Cafe, which he is getting ready to open in Dublin.

How much is in your wallet? About a hundred quid; £60 plus euros. I travel between London and Ireland, where I tip in euros.

card. The farming philosophy is that you

Which cards do you use? Just a debit card. I've never had a credit can't spend what you don't have and that's served me well. I dread debt. I've enough debt in my business. A pile of debt personally would be too much.

Are you a saver or a spender? I'm a saver. I like to be near the coast but I don't need to spend ten grand on a weekend in Ibiza and I don't need stuff. Hoarding is bad and I've worked too hard to blow it on menial and stupid things. But I love going to restaurants - a great maitre d' and a great chef, and that Orient Express of courses coming. If I open a great bottle of wine, I'll pour you the first glass because success is about sharing. It's fun finishing off with a great glass of port and some Bassett blue cheese. I'll open a bottle of champagne for no reason if I like you. I like so many people, it's: "Richard, did you see your champagne bill last month?!" Honestly, one day we're going to die. Don't worry

Do you own property?

about it too much.

My house in north London is my pride and joy. Since coming to London in 1987, I've done the journey from Hornsey to Crouch End, to Muswell Hill. We bought our house 15 years ago for £1.2 million. We borrowed heavily. I probably told so



Richard Corrigan in the vegetable garden of Virginia Park Lodge, his estate and restaurant in Co Cavan, Ireland

many lies on my mortgage application that if anyone really looked at it, they'd have fainted. The previous owners used a good architect, so it's ultra-modern inside with a central metal staircase. In the basement we have the laundry room, toilet, and TV room – there are no TVs anywhere else.

Are you better off than your parents? Yeah. My parents were farmers in Co Meath, outside Dublin. We fattened cattle and sold them on, and had four dairy cows. I have three brothers and three sisters, and we all worked, chopping wood, making butter, and baking bread. My parents worked hard,

but money was an issue, so my father

worked for the Office of Public Works

too, which does the monuments in Ireland. I worked on a neighbouring dairy farm from the age of 12 and earned £40 to £60 a week. Everyone contributed to household bills, so I gave a lot to my mum, but it gave me a sense of independence. Holidays were something city folk went on.

How much did you earn last year? Just over £100,000.

Did you ever struggle

to make ends meet?

No. I've always had the ability to work hard and earn a living. I've built my business on the back of hard work and single mindedness. It doesn't matter how much you earn, if you have no regard for how you dispose of your pennies, then you'll always be poor.

What was your most lucrative work? I've been in *Great British Menu* from the beginning – I might as well be working for nothing but the exposure helps. I cooked for the Queen, privately, in one of my restaurants, and in 2012 I cooked for Michelle Obama's Breakfast Club and got a private tour of the White House. I did a UN delegates dinner and Angelina Jolie came into the kitchen to say hello. I worked for British Airways for nine years and did the menus for Concorde's last flights. I got £30,000 in free flights, but was too busy to use them.

Do you invest in shares? I never had shares until 2008 when I thought I'd buy some just in case. I asked my accountant and he said: "Richard.

the world is crashing. The banks are

crashing. I'm not sure it's a good idea." I take the view that when times are bad, it's a good time to buy and I bought £30,000 of shares. I've never bought any since, but they've doubled in value.

What's been your best business decision?

Buying Virginia Park Lodge in 2013. We opened three years later, but we're still only 70 per cent of the way there. It's swallowed everything I've got, but I'm incredibly proud of it. All the food is home grown – we only buy in avocados, lemons and oranges – and we're chemical-free and self-sustainable. We have a massive hot and cold composting operation and a no-dig policy in the gardens. It's a wonderful natural cycle. It creates beautiful food and supplies a good amount of the vegetables for my London restaurants, saving me £70,000 a year. We do corporate and private takeovers and weddings. We'd usually



One thief ran up a £3,500 champagne bill on a stolen credit card do 40-42 weddings a year, but the backlog from Covid means we did 50-55 last year, and we'll probably do 64 this year. It's about £140 a head for the food, so it's not crazy, and there's nowhere like it. The house is beautiful and we have Blackdown shepherd's huts in the woodland. It's a slow process, but we're getting there. I love the Chinese view that you do things over decades.

What's been your worst business decision?

When Corrigan's Mayfair had only been open a week, a customer paid with a stolen credit card. The restaurant was just getting going, and we didn't have CCTV. We had to return the money, which included £3,500 spent on vintage champagne. It's not a one-off, I lose five grand a year to "dine-and-dashers". There was one in 2018 who walked in like the Scarlet Pimpernel. He ate incredibly well, ordered one of the most expensive bottles of wine, and said to the barman: "I'm just having a cigarette outside." Then he walked into the night.

I was so upset. I went around Mayfair on my scooter showing CCTV footage to security at Annabel's, Scott's – all my neighbours. I thought, if he's done it to me, he's doing it to other people. I offered a reward on social media, but we never got that guy. It happens in top-end restaurants, and most people don't want to talk about it. Soho with its street dining will attract bag thieves, but smarter thieves work in smarter areas. They're not all online trying to grab your cash: they're willing to drink it as well.

What's been your best investment? Educating my children. It cost a lot and I hope they appreciate it. I lived like a church mouse, on very little, to educate my children well. My eldest son is now managing director of the company, my daughter has her own PR company and my youngest works for Claridge's sister hotel in LA. As long as they don't turn into snobs and privileged gits, there's no better investment.

And your worst?

I have a small, three-litre diesel power boat that I bought nine years ago for £16,000 and I've since spent double on its maintenance. It's always the same problems: engine, wiring, marine engineer call out. Each year it swallows up a few thousand, for just a couple of weeks' pleasure. It's bananas, but I like being by the coast in summer.

What's your money weakness?

I melt like a pound of butter in front of a good wine list. If I see a bottle of wine I want, you'd have to chain me not to purchase it. Every few years, I take my head chefs to a three Michelin star restaurant in Paris to treat them. Four years ago we went to Bernard Pacaud's restaurant, L'Ambroisie, and the bill came to £5,500 for four of us.

What's better for retirement, property or pension?

I never believed in pensions. I took out a tiny pension 20-25 years ago and consolidated my pots into one but every time I look, there is less in it.

Are you involved with any charities? I'm a trustee and patron of the Irish Youth Foundation, a very broad charity, giving big lumps of cash to good causes. We give out £360,000 every year and gave out an extra £300,000 during Covid. Giving back makes you a better person. You don't want to get too full of yourself, it's a horrible place to be. Richard Corrigan is due to open the Park Cafe in Dublin next month; corrigancollection.com



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The amount wiped off the S&P 500 on Tuesday after US inflation was higher than expected

# Household savings hit by big bills

Imogen Tew

Almost one in five savers have had to dip into their rainy day fund to cover living costs since the start of the month.

When the Office for

National Statistics asked 5,000 households it found that 18 per cent had used their savings and 12 per cent had borrowed money to cover costs in the past two weeks, while 26 per cent said they had been unable to save as much money as usual. Some 17 per cent said the value of their savings was being affected by economic

instability. "Our savings are vanishing as inflation devours any financial resilience we had managed to build up during the lockdowns," said Sarah Coles from the investment platform Hargreaves Lansdown. "And when any savings are finally exhausted, we're being forced to borrow."

Inflation was 9.9 per cent in August as the energy crisis

100/ 0/0 of people had dipped into

their savings this month

continued to push up prices. Food, non-alcoholic drinks and clothing were the main drivers. Some 87 per cent of savers told the ONS that their cost of living had risen in the past month and 82 per cent were "very or somewhat" concerned about rising costs. Some 48 per cent said it was difficult to afford energy bills, and 14 per cent were

The cap which limits average dual fuel variable tariff energy bills increased 54 per cent in April to £1,971 a year on average. The prime minister Liz Truss has said that she will cap bills at £2,500 a year for 18 months.

Annuities, where you

struggling to pay other bills.

# CHART OF THE WEEK A BETTER RETURN ON RETIREMENT



exchange a lump sum for a guaranteed annual payout, have been out of favour for years because of their low rates. More than 400,000 policies were sold in 2012 but 60,000 last year. Annuity rates are linked to gilt yields, which have risen in line with the Bank of England base rate. A 65-year-old can now get income of £6,810 a year from a £100,000 pot, up from £4,690 two years ago.





# Phillips deals injury blow to Southgate's Qatar plans

# Charlotte Duncker

Kalvin Phillips is a doubt for the World Cup after the recurrence of a shoulder injury forced the Manchester City midfielder to pull out of this month's international fixtures.

City must decide whether the player requires surgery, raising concerns over his potential involvement in the World Cup, which begins in Qatar on November 20.

Phillips, who was named in the England squad for their next two Nations League games, missed a month of action in 2020 with a similar injury, but surgery is likely to result in a significantly longer spell on the sidelines.

The 26-year-old missed City's 3-0 win against Wolverhampton Wanderers yesterday, with the club saying that he was "not fully fit". It is understood that his shoulder is again the problem. The midfielder has a history of shoulder injuries and had to come off during a friendly against Barcelona last month after taking a blow to his arm and shoulder. The former Leeds United player has previously suffered two significant shoulder injuries.

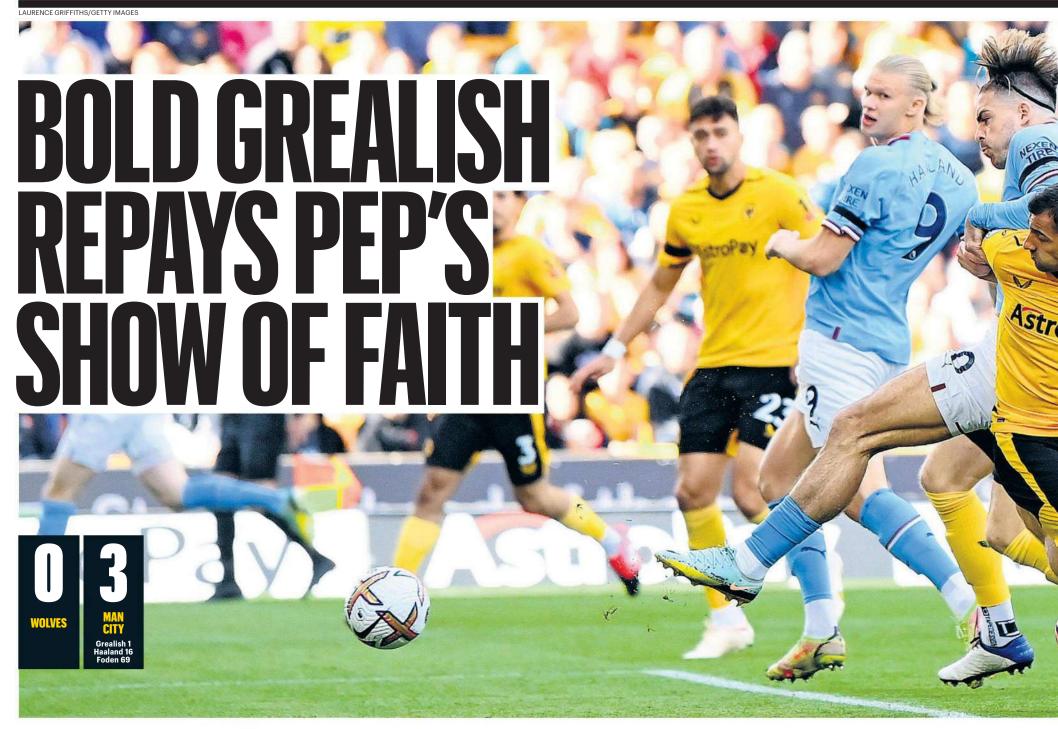
The England manager, Gareth Southgate, picked Phillips for the Nations League matches against Italy, on Friday, and Germany, on September 26, despite his lack of playing time for City. He has played only one minute of Premier League football this season, when he came off the bench in the opening fixture against West Ham United, and has made two late appearances as a substitute in the Champions League.

"Clearly, we have a number of players, including Ben Chilwell, Luke Shaw, Harry Maguire and Kalvin Phillips who are not playing a lot of minutes with their club," Southgate said. "It is not ideal, but we feel they have been, and can be, important players for us. It is not a perfect situation but there is still a lot of football to be played before Qatar."

The length of Phillips's absence is

The length of Phillips's absence is not yet known but the news will be a blow to Southgate – Phillips was one of England's best players in last year's European Championship.

# Premier League



**HENRY** WINTER



At Molineux

s a response to all the criticism he has received, Jack Grealish scoring after only 55 seconds here at Molineux was a pretty emphatic riposte. Manchester City's No 10 made a huge mark on this game, certainly a far more attractive mark than the one a reckless Nathan Collins made on him with a kung-fu kick.

So many questions have been launched like pointed barbs at Grealish this week. Does he deserve to start when Julián Álvarez, the exciting Argentinian, was being held in reserve? Does he deserve to start on the left where Phil Foden can do such damage? Does he deserve Pep Guardiola's unconditional public support? Does Grealish's dribbling style fit with City's precise passing and relentless moving? Does he score enough, with only three goals in his  $previous\,28\,Premier\,League\,games\,for$ City? Does he provide enough assists, only three in a similar period? He did cost £100 million, after all. Surely he should be delivering more?

Does he deserve a place in the



Star man Kevin De Bruyne (Man City). Substitutes: Wolves A Traoré (for Podence 70, 6), Hwang Hee-chan (for Guedes 70, 6), N Semedo (for Aît-Nouri 81), Campbell (for P Neto 86)

Man City J Álvarez (for Silva 72), R Mahrez (for Foden 72), I Gundogan (for De Bruyne 72), C Palmer (for Grealish 77), S Gómez (for Rodri

Referee A Taylor. Attendance 31,578.

England squad? Grealish simply muscled his way into the Wolverhampton Wanderers' six-yard box to meet Kevin De Bruyne's cross after 55 seconds. He acknowledged afterwards that much of the criticism had been legitimate, thanked Guardiola for his support and said he knows it is about reprising such performances week in, week out.

Grealish is often at his most threatening when opposing fans get on his back, targeting him with chants ranging from the venomous to the pantomime. Wolves fans jeered him partly for his Aston Villa connections. Grealish is also at his best when he takes risks, as he did here, breaking the lines, coming off the left, and getting in the area.

Grealish is at his best when he feels he has the trust of the manager, and Guardiola keeps picking him and backed him loudly during the week after he laboured against Borussia Dortmund. But goals pay the rent, as a great man once said, and goals change narratives.

So Grealish needed this goal, as he admitted to BT Sport after being named man of the match. "I should be scoring more and getting more assists," Grealish said. "I'm always going to have people talk about me because of the amount I got bought for. I have to thank Pep. He gave me the opportunity today. My performance on Wednesday wasn't the best. Hopefully I repaid Pep for starting me

after Wednesday."

He certainly did. After the pre-match tributes to the Queen concluded, the minute's silence respectfully observed, the wreaths laid and national anthem sung, Grealish and company calmly imposed themselves. It was a classic City move for their first, switching flanks, the ball swiftly moved between friendly feet, a killer final ball and unerring finish.

Bernardo Silva, one of ten Portuguese players on the field, and Grealish helped to turn over the ball on the left, Rodri took over and transferred play across to De Bruyne. City's captain found Foden and hurtled outside, taking the Englishman's back-heeled return and immediately crossing. Grealish held off Jonny to steer the ball past José Sá.

City's champions were in control, not quite strolling to victory but always in charge. John Stones, playing right back, pushed up boldly on Rayan Ait-Nouri. Manuel Akanji slotted in effortlessly at right centre back. Rodri roamed midfield, seeing off any danger, and building moves.

So another goal for City was not a surprise, and nor was the scorer. Silva released Erling Haaland through the middle after 16 minutes and Max Kilman made the mistake of backing off, retreating really, inviting the Norwegian to move into shooting

# Tm always going to have people talk about me because of the amount I got bought for'

Kilman is a good defender, but he looked almost fearful as Haaland advanced.

Haaland slightly scuffed his shot but it was strong and accurate enough to beat Sá, for his 14th goal in nine competitive games for City. At 22, Haaland could well be on course for the Professional Footballers' Association young player of the year award as well as player of the year.

At 2-0 down, Wolves were a man down after 33 minutes when Grealish crumpled under a shocking, studs-up

**Erling Haaland** has become the first player to score in each of his first four **Premier League** away games



# THE GAFFER TAPES WHAT THE MANAGERS SAID

# **BRUNO LAGE**

When you don't score goals it is a worry and that is why we have these three strikers.



Unfortunately, nobody is available to play. Even Manchester City and a manager like Pep Guardiola understand you need a reference in the box to score goals. I don't believe there are too many teams in the world that can do what we did against this top team with ten men. The players were brave, made some mistakes, but there were periods we were very good. I don't believe [Nathan] Collins wanted to do that, but when you see that you have to admit it can be yellow or red.

# **PEP GUARDIOLA**

They [the players] don't have to say thank you. I said to them many times they are here because I trust them unconditionally, all of them. Jack [Grealish] is not an exception. He scored a goal and it was a good performance. Of course I am happy for him, for the victory. Always when we arrive up there, players have permission to open the door and go into the box. Nobody is not allowed to do it there. Erling [Haaland] continues to score goals, that's top. Julián [Álvarez] had a chance, that's top. But the other ones need to have the desire, the hunger and the mentality to score goals as well.

# challenge from Collins. It was not quite Nigel de Jong on Xabi Alonso in the 2010 World Cup final as the Dutchman's studs were turned into the Spaniard's ribs.

Grealish was actually pushing off from his left foot, rising up, and Collins's right boot was still high. Anthony Taylor, the referee, did not hesitate to pull out a red card, dismissing Collins. Grealish lifted his shirt to reveal where Collins's foot had landed, but was subsequently booed by Wolves fans.

Wolves actually looked more assertive with ten, especially in the 20 minutes after the break. Bruno Lage, the head coach, responded to Collins's departure by withdrawing Rúben Neves into defence, where he did well. Ait-Nouri dispossessed De Bruyne and charged upfield. Taylor somehow allowed Rodri to wrestle over João Moutinho, much to the Wolves fans' annoyance.

But their team were largely toothless in attack. Wolves could have done with Diego Costa to ruffle City's elegant feathers, but the 33-year-old is working on his fitness.

City went further clear when Haaland released De Bruyne, who stroked the ball across for Foden to beat Sá with a low shot. With 14 minutes left, Grealish departed to tumultuous applause from the City fans and caustic chants from the Wolves faithful. Just the way he likes it.

# 1 SHOULD BE SCORING MORE

Jack Grealish has admitted that he should be scoring more goals for City but thanked Pep Guardiola for sticking with him.

Grealish, 27, has come in for a lot of criticism since his £100 million move from Aston Villa last summer. He only managed six goals and four assists across all competitions last season and his opener against Wolves was his first goal this term.

"It was a long time coming and nice to get off the mark. Rightly so, people have been asking questions. I should be scoring more and getting more assists," Grealish said. "I am always going to have people talking about me with the money that was spent on me."

He added: "It is nice when Pep defends me. He has been brilliant with me."



Grealish is caught by the high boot of Collins, who was sent off

# Howe with work to do despite VAR help

**NEWCASTLE UNITED** 

Isak (pen) 67

**BOURNEMOUTH** 

Billing 62

### **Martin Hardy**

It was the same monitor, on the East Stand side of St James' Park, except this time when the referee – Craig Pawson on this occasion – walked away from it and blew his whistle, cheers rang around the stadium. Newcastle United officials were so incensed by the intervention of VAR after their previous home game with Crystal Palace, and the disallowing of an own goal by Tyrick Mitchell, that discussions with the Premier League and refereeing chiefs were held in the following days.

It took lengthy talks and promises about the impact of Howard Webb when he becomes English football's first chief refereeing officer in December to pacify senior figures at the club. Two weeks later, in their next game, after the cancellation of their trip to West Ham United, a VAR call went for them.

Eddie Howe, the Newcastle head coach, conceded that he had not had time to watch replays of the handball that saved a point for his team.

Gary O'Neil, the unbeaten interim Bournemouth manager, did, and he was convinced that the team he does not know if he will manage again — with an international break meaning the next game is not until the first weekend of October — should have left Tyneside with three points.

VAR would prove a major influence in a Newcastle game once more in the 67th minute of a match in which they struggled for fluency and trailed to a Philip Billing goal.

Kieran Trippier crossed low and Jefferson Lerma attempted to block the cross, but it struck the Bournemouth man's outstretched left hand.

The game was stopped, Pawson was instructed by the video assistant referee, Stuart Attwell, to check the pitch-side monitor, and a penalty was awarded. Alexander Isak's spot kick was emphatic, smashed into the corner of Neto's goal.

"If I was looking at the VAR [monitor], there is no way I would have given a penalty," O'Neil said. "I'm frustrated. I thought it

was harsh on us. After going to VAR, I was really surprised at the conclusion.

"Jefferson has gone to put his body in the way of the ball, his arm swings, as it does when you're moving, and he's not looking at it. It's not a criticism. It's just my opinion."

The equalising goal would prove to be the end of the

Isak scored from the penalty spot to earn his team a point

scoring, despite the huff and puff of Howe's present side, and the defending and desire to strike on the counterattack of his old one.

Newcastle have now not won since the first day of the season, although they have also lost only once.

they have also lost only once.
"We're disappointed," Howe said.
"I thought that was a performance
below the levels we've set ourselves.
Probably for the first time this
season, we dipped.

"I'll have to watch the game again to get a better understanding of why we weren't quite there today.

"We conceded a poor goal today by our standards. We have a lot of work to do."

Newcastle struck the woodwork twice in the opening half. Trippier had curled a 25-yard free kick that crashed off the outside of Neto's far post and Joelinton would do the same as the first half closed, taking a neat pass from Ryan Fraser and clipping a right-footed shot that struck the inside of the opposite upright.

Neto would then excel twice. With the ball still alive, he saved well from close range from Joelinton and then, after the resulting corner was cleared to Fraser, he made a flying save to his left to deny the former Bournemouth man. The visiting side were confident and comfortable for

20

Attempts at goal Newcastle had yesterday, as well as 72% possession, but could only draw

large periods of the game, however. The centre forward Dominic Solanke, a player signed by Howe, always offered an out ball, Marcus Tavernier and Ryan Christie were lively and threatening and in the left back Jordan Zemura, Bournemouth had the game's best player.

It was he who provided the game's opening goal, in the 62nd minute. The ball was worked wide to the Bournemouth player and when he crossed low, Billing stole in ahead of Fabian Schär to toe-poke a shot behind Nick Pope.

The awarding of the penalty and Isak's goal gave Newcastle would raise hope of a rousing finish. It

Star man Jordan Zemura
(Bournemouth)
Newcastle (4-3-3): N Pope 6—
K Trippier 8, F Schär 6, D Burn 7,
M Targett 7— J Willock 6, B
Guimaraes 7 (S Longstaff 72, 5),
Joelinton 6 — M Almiron 6 (C
Wood 90), A Isak 6, R Fraser 6
(J Murphy 72, 4). Booked
Joelinton, Burn.
Bournemouth (4-3-3): Neto 7—
A Smith 7, C Mepham 7, M
Senesi 6, J Zemura 8 — J
Lerma 6, L Cook 7 — M

Durnemouth (4-3-3): Neto /-A
A Smith 7, C Mepham 7, M
Senesi 6, J Zemura 8 — J
Lerma 6, L Cook 7 — M
Tavernier 7 (J Anthony 80),
P Billing 7 (J Stephens 90)
R Christie 7 (J Stacey 87)
— D Solanke 6
(K Moore 90).
Booked Christie,
Tavernier.
Referee C Pawson.
Attendance 52,238.

# **Football**

Super-sub Son shines bright to leave Rodgers on the brink

# **Paul Rowan**

he drought continues for Leicester City and Brendan Rodgers, but the drought comprehensively ended for Son Heung-min, who stole the show when he came on as a substitute after an hour and completed a 13-minute hattrick which routed the opposition.

Leicester had given as good as they got in the first half, but were blown away in the second. Four first-half goals were evenly shared, with Youri Tielemans (from a penalty), Harry Kane, Eric Dier and James Maddison on the scoresheet. Rodrigo Bentancur then put Spurs ahead shortly after the break and then it was Son's half-hour as he destroyed Leicester with his pace and finishing, a reminder of why he was the joint winner of the Premier League Golden Boot, alongside Mohamed Salah, last season.

Blessed relief for Son, yet more worry for Rodgers, whose side have six defeats from their seven league matches, prompting increasing speculation that Leicester will be

seeking a new manager.
"I don't know," Rodgers replied when asked whether he still had the support of the club's Thai owners, who may be tempted to use the international break to make a change. "Whatever the decision is I will respect it. The owners will do what



Star man Son Heung-min (Tottenham). Substitutes: Tottenham E Royal (for Perisic 55min, 6), C Romero (for Sánchez 59, 6), Son Heung-min (for Richarlison 59, 9), Y Bissouma (for Kulusevski 70). Leicester K Iheanacho (for Dewsbury-Hall 74) J Vardy (for Daka 74), B Soumaré (for Ndidi 85) Referee S Hooper. Attendance 61,

they feel they need to do. I am not daft, six losses and a draw do not look good. Turning things around is a challenge that I will relish because I have never had this spell in my career.'

With Tottenham second on goal dif-

ference behind the leaders, Manchester City, and still unbeaten in the league, Antonio Conte's selection will no doubt be viewed as a masterstroke, given how Son reacted to starting on the bench for the first time this season. The South Korean produced two wonder strikes from outside the box and completed his hat-trick with a low shot past the hapless Danny Ward, who has conceded 11 goals in

his past two games. Leicester were both battling and inventive in the first half, but their defending from set pieces again let them down. The Tottenham centre half Davinson Sánchez was in the thick of the action at both ends, first giving away a penalty after six min-

after Dara O'Shea had headed them

"I know it's a hard job but big

decisions have cost us, and if I don't win games I get my head chopped off," he said. "The big decisions

they need to get right and we had

two against us, their goal and

utes, when his clumsy challenge on James Justin was punished by a spotkick award for Leicester. Hugo Lloris saved Tielemans's first effort, but was ruled to have encroached off his line and the Leicester midfielder made no mistake with his second. Rodgers's side managed to hang on to the lead for only two minutes, when Dejan Kulusevski took a short corner with Bentancur and his cross to the far post was knocked in by Kane.

Leicester were again caught out by a set piece in the 21st minute when a pinpoint delivery from a corner, this time by Ivan Perisic, was flicked into the net by Dier. Sánchez then challenged Ward from another Perisic corner and the ball ended up in the net,

# **KANE'S VICTIMS**

Harry Kane's goal against Leicester City equalled Alan Shearer's record of scoring 20 goals against the same opponents. Shearer scored his goals against Leeds United

Leicester	20
Everton	14
Arsenal	13
Southampton	11
West Ham	11

when the Norwich captain, Grant Hanley, barged Swift over in the area after Kenny McLean had surrendered possession cheaply in his own half.

Swift's touch had taken him away from goal but Albion appeared to be justified in their anger

that Bramall did not award a penalty. "It was an absolute stonewall penalty, it doesn't matter that the ball was going out of play," Bruce said. "Swifty got a touch, the boy Hanley barged into him.

head coach, had a different take, consistency from the referee, so well done," he said.

Norwich took a while to rouse struck the top of the crossbar from a tight angle just before the break. Albion seemed content to slow the game down, to the annoyance of the home fans, who felt justice was done in the 68th minute when Teemu Pukki's shot was deflected past David Button off Byram, inset.

He knew little about it, as he had little time to react, but Albion claimed it had gone in off his arm. Their protests were enough to persuade the referee to consult his assistant, Matthew Wilkes, but with no VAR the goal stood. "I'm led to believe that if it hits the T-shirt, the top of the arm, then it's OK, so it looks like a good goal," Smith said.

Norwich (4-2-3-1): T Krul 6 — M Aarons 6, G Hanley 6, A Omobamidele 6, S Byram 7 — K McLean 5, M Núñez 6 (K Dowell 78, 5) — J Sargent 6, A Ramsey 6 (T Cantwell 88, 4), G Sara 6 (O Hernandez 60, 6) — T Pukki 6. **Booked** Aarons.

West Brom (4-2-3-1): D Button 6 — D Furlong 6, D O'Shea 7, C Townsend 7, E Pieters 6 — J Molumby 6 (Phillips 90, 3), J Livermore 6 — J Wallace 6, J Swift 7, G Diangara 7 (A Reach 88, 4) — B Thomas-Asante 6 (K Grant 78, 5). **Booked** Furlong.

Referee T Bramall.

# **Referees' blunders** could cost me my job, says Bruce



# **NORWICH CITY WEST BROMWICH ALBION**

# Jon West

Steve Bruce criticised the referee Thomas Bramall for the two big decisions that he worries could end up costing him his job.

West Bromwich Albion have won only once in the Championship this season and are firmly part of the relegation picture going into an international break that often involves managers getting sacked.

Albion were the better side against hosts who sit in second place and required a fortunate goal from Sam Byram to salvage a point. Bruce, West Brom's manager, was adamant that it should have been ruled out for handball, however, and that his side should also have been awarded a penalty shortly

being genuinely honest." The result ended a six-match winning streak in league action for the host side, who never really looked like

the penalty, and that is

into an early lead.

extending it. The ease with which O'Shea headed in in the ninth minute was laughable. Norwich City's back line completely

failed to pick up the Ireland defender as he cantered in at the back post to meet John Swift's free kick to send a downward header past the unprotected Tim Krul.

Albion could count themselves unlucky a handful of minutes later

Dean Smith, the Norwich arguing that Bramall had allowed a similar challenge on a Norwich player in the build-up. "It's

themselves, although Gabriel Sara



but a free kick was awarded for Leicester when they would not have had strong grounds for complaint had Spurs gone further ahead. Instead, Leicester came roaring back with some strong running by Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall, who switched the play to Timothy Castagne. The full back got the better of Ryan Sessegnon and his cross was hooked in by Maddison to make it 2-2 in the 41st minute. There was still time at the other end for Ward to tip Sánchez's powerful header on to the bar.

Spurs regained the lead two minutes after the break. Rodgers had called on his players to be brave, but instead they were rather foolhardy as Jonny Evans played a short ball to Wil-

# **PREMIER LEAGUE**

		P	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
1	Man City	7	5	2	0	23	6	17	17
2	Tottenham	7	5	2	0	18	7	11	17
3	Arsenal	6	5	0	1	14	7	7	15
4	Brighton	6	4	1	1	11	5	6	13
5	Man Utd	6	4	0	2	8	8	0	12
6	Fulham	7	3	2	2	12	11	1	11
7	Chelsea	6	3	1	2	8	9	-1	10
8	Liverpool	6	2	3	1	15	6	9	9
9	Brentford	6	2	3	1	15	9	6	9
10	Newcastle	7	1	5	1	8	7	1	8
11	Leeds	6	2	2	2	10	10	0	8
12	Bournemouth	7	2	2	3	6	19	-13	8
13	Southampton	7	2	1	4	7	11	-4	7
14	Aston Villa	7	2	1	4	6	10	-4	7
15	Crystal Palace	6	1	3	2	7	9	-2	6
16	Wolverhampton	7	1	3	3	3	7	-4	6
17	Everton	6	0	4	2	4	6	-2	4
18	West Ham	6	1	1	4	3	8	-5	4
19	Nottm Forest	7	1	1	5	6	17	-11	4
20	Leicester	7	0	1	6	10	22	-12	1

fred Ndidi, who had Bentancur bearing down on him. Ndidi's pocket was duly picked and Bentancur had a clear route to the edge of the penalty area, where he dispatched the ball past Ward. Spurs needed an excellent save by Lloris from Patson Daka's header to keep the lead, but it was not long before the away side presented another gift to Bentancur, who fed Son, on for Richarlison.

The South Korean ran at Evans, who backed away and invited the shot, which came from 30 yards and found the corner of the net. Son then latched on to Kane's pass and produced another consummate finish from outside the box to make it 5-2, before completing his hat-trick in 13 minutes as Leicester were again caught out at the back, this time by Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg's pass in the 86th minute.

"The striker has to score or his confidence goes down," Conte said. "Sonny had a lot of chances to score in the last seven games, but was unlucky. To manage these type of situations is not easy because you prefer to play with attacking players but in some moments I have to take important decisions.

"If you are honest, you don't lose the respect of your players and in my career I always do what's [best] for the team. If we want to stay up there we have to make those tough decisions."

# Dasilva: I arrived for Arsenal trial in United kit, it's all I had

Tom Allnutt

At his mum and dad's house, Josh Dasilva has a cabinet where he keeps all the mementos of his career, from hat-trick balls to manof-the-match awards, and shirts from his days in England's youth teams. But one shirt, which hangs there in a frame, is particularly special – the shirt he wore on his debut for Arsenal.

"It's a bit of a tribute to my parents," Dasilva says, remembering that first game back in September 2017. "You work for all those years from when you were eight and all of the things that people don't know like travelling, having to leave work, having to leave school early, having to take the bus by yourself. All of that, you cherish it in that moment."

The midfielder had spent a decade with Arsenal's academy, been coached by Thierry Henry and advanced through the youth teams with the likes of Emile Smith Rowe, Eddie Nketiah, Reiss Nelson, Bukayo Saka, who was two years below, and Joe Willock. But his first appearance was one of only three that season and the following summer, Dasilva decided to leave. "It was 100 per cent the right decision," he says. "I always said I would never regret leaving."

Dasilva faces Arsenal again today,

now wearing the red and white of Brentford, the club he helped win promotion from the Championship, survive in the Premier League, and who are now looking to

Dasilva has no regrets about leaving Arsenal

carry momentum into a second season in the top flight under their charismatic Danish head coach, Thomas Frank.

Dasilva remains close friends with his former Arsenal teammates, in particular Nketiah, and when he sees the success some of them are now enjoying in the first team, his overriding feeling is of pride. "Knowing guys that I've played with from a young age, like Eddie and Emile, and the way they've come up, I know how hard it is to be where they are, so sharing that pitch with them and playing in probably the best league in the world is second to none," he says.

"Everyone goes down different paths and you shouldn't think, 'Ah, this guy's here'. Just focus on yourself. Eddie's chosen that path, I've chosen this path, Joe [Willock] chose to leave and has gone to Newcastle. It doesn't matter really what path you take."

After leaving Arsenal, though, Dasilva's shot at the Premier League was almost snatched away again last year, just as Brentford were about to seal promotion. The 23-year-old lost a piece of bone in his right hip and a specialist said he might never play again.

"I laughed, I didn't really read too much into it," Dasilva says. "I tried to come back and wasn't feeling right so I knew it was going

to be a long-term injury. I was thinking, let's just get on with it. The specialist said, 'Best case scenario, you'll be playing in January 2022', so I said, 'OK fine, let's get going.'"

After almost a year out, Dasilva returned in February and played ten times as Brentford finished 13th. As a show of faith, Frank held back the No 10 shirt for when Dasilva was ready to return.

# **KEY PAIR BACK FOR EVERTON**

Dominic Calvert-Lewin and Abdoulaye Doucoure are fit for Everton, who host West Ham United at Goodison Park today. Everton have won 27 of their 52 Premier League games against the Hammers, their best record against any side in the division, although West Ham did the double over them last season.

• Everton v West Ham, Sky Sports PL. kick-off 2.15pm

Many wondered if Brentford might struggle to replicate their impressive first season in the Premier League but after six games, they have lost only once and are level on points with Liverpool.

The highlight of their strong start was the 4-0 thrashing of Manchester United as Dasilva opened the scoring, a goal that carried extra meaning given he was a boyhood United fan. As an eightyear-old, he even turned up to his Arsenal trial in a United kit. "I think they laughed it off, I was young and I didn't have kits lying around," he says. "I had No 8 and my name on the back. My mum bought it for me."

So whose Arsenal shirt will he be looking for at full time today? "I only collect shirts of players I've played with and I think I've got all of them already," Dasilva says. "I'll try and get Eddie's, because he's got a new number this season."

Another one to add to the cabinet.



# ON TV TODAY

**Brentford v Arsenal** 12pm, Sky Sports Main Event

# Afobe hits winner for Millwall

Afobe struck

second goal

Millwall's

Pat goa wh three goa with the goa will be goa with the go

# **ROUND-UP**

Whenever Millwall score this season they do not lose, so there must have been a sense of relief around The Den when the Blackpool goalkeeper Dan Grimshaw deflected Zian Flemming's header into his own net after 14 minutes (Peter Wilson writes). The Arsenal loanee Charlie Patino equalised with his first league goal, but Millwall ran out 2-1 winners when Benik Afobe struck midway through the second half.

Calamitous defending consigned
Hull City to a fourth straight defeat
as they lost 3-0 away to Swansea
City. Ryan Manning volleyed the
opener in the 61st minute. Luke
Cundle added a second three
minutes later when the Hull
goalkeeper, Nathan Baxter, collided
with his own player, Tobias
Figueiredo, to allow the substitute a
tap-in. Joel Piroe scored the third

when Figueiredo's pass went straight to the Swansea forward.

Huddersfield Town, who sacked their manager Danny Schofield last week, recorded their second league win of the season, a 1-0 victory against Cardiff City. Jordan Rhodes struck after seven minutes for the hosts, but Cardiff missed the chance to equalise when Callum Robinson's penalty was saved by Lee Nicholls.

Sheffield United moved three points clear at the top as goals from Iliman Ndiaye and Oli McBurnie gave them a 2-0 win away to **Preston**North End. Tom Ince's free kick was enough for **Reading** to win 1-0 away to **Wigan Athletic** to go third.

Jewison Bennette fired an 87thminute equaliser to give **Sunderland** a 2-2 draw away to **Watford**. Keinan Davis put the hosts in front but Aji Alese levelled on half-time. Luke O'Nien headed the ball into his own net, before Bennette's late show.

Jay Rodriguez's 67th-minute header proved the winner in

**Burnley's** 2-1 defeat of **Bristol City**. Manuel Benson had fired the hosts in front, but the visitors equalised through Nahki Wells.

Stoke City continued their dire record in London. They have won only one of their past 35 matches in the capital after their 0-0 draw against Queens Park Rangers yesterday.

You win some, you lose some has been the story of **Blackburn Rovers'** league campaign. Their 2-0 defeat away to **Luton Town** evened up their wins and losses this season to five of each in ten league games. Goals from Carlton Morris and Reece Burke ensured Luton's first home win this season.

Coventry City remain adrift at the bottom. They had Gustavo Hamer sent off in their O-O draw away to Birmingham City. A Duncan Watmore shot that hit the inside of the post early in the second half was the closest Middlesbrough or Rotherham United got to scoring in their O-O draw

# **SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP**

		Р	W	υ	L	-	Α	Gυ	Pts
1	Sheff Utd	10	7	2	1	19	5	14	23
2	Norwich	10	6	2	2	16	9	7	20
3	Reading	10	6	0	4	10	14	-4	18
4	Burnley	10	4	5	1	17	10	7	17
5	Sunderland	10	4	3	3	16	11	5	15
6	QPR	10	4	3	3	14	11	3	15
7	Blackburn	10	5	0	5	11	13	-2	15
8	Rotherham	9	3	5	1	12	6	6	14
9	Bristol City	10	4	2	4	19	16	3	14
10	Watford	10	3	5	2	11	11	0	14
11	Luton	10	3	4	3	11	10	1	13
12	Wigan	9	3	4	2	9	11	-2	13
13	Millwall	10	4	1	5	11	14	-3	13
14	Stoke	10	3	3	4	11	11	0	12
15	Preston North End	10	2	6	2	3	4	-1	12
16	Swansea	10	3	3	4	10	12	-2	12
17	Birmingham	10	3	3	4	8	10	-2	12
18	Cardiff	10	3	2	5	7	11	-4	11
19	Blackpool	10	3	2	5	10	15	-5	11
20	Hull	10	3	2	5	11	21	-10	11
21	West Brom	10	1	7	2	15	14	1	10
22	Middlesbrough	10	2	4	4	13	15	-2	10
23	Huddersfield	9	2	1	6	9	13	-4	7
24	Coventry	7	0	3	4	7	13	-6	3

# **Football**

# THE FOOTBALL INTERVIEW

JONATHAN NORTHCROFT



Football Correspondent

e is standing in the middle of a field in Virginia. The sun is hot and crickets chirp in the thickets of grass beyond the perimeter fence. And on this field, this manicured football pitch, there are red dotted lines running all the way down it, from one box to the other. He had them painted on. "Five lanes," Wayne Rooney says, explaining an idea he has borrowed from Pep Guardiola.

Five lanes. You divide the pitch vertically, like this: left, right, middle, and then two narrower channels between each wide area and the central strip that are the "half spaces". It's a training aid when coaching players how to attack with structure and find room between the lines.

"Here," Rooney says, standing in the spot just outside the box, right of the middle, where Kevin De Bruyne picks up so many balls and damages the opposition by teasing crosses to the far post. "[Erling] Haaland will go there," Rooney points, and you can almost see it, a giant Norwegian leaping to knock home a ball at the far post.

Rooney is in his element (well, apart from the baseball cap he needs to protect his head from that un-Merseyside sun) but he could have chosen an easier life. He could be home with Coleen and their four boys, enjoying their new house, recharging from a draining 19 months in charge of Derby County, doing a bit of punditry, playing a bit of golf and waiting for English football's merry-go-round to turn and the next Sky Bet Championship job to come up.

But instead he's here: at DC United, who were bottom of the MLS Eastern Conference when he took charge of his first game and remain there after two wins, three draws and six losses from a gruelling schedule that involved 11 games in his first six weeks and DC cross-crossing America from coast to coast, with seven of those matches away.

He gave himself only 18 days' rest between quitting Derby and taking this post, but remains enthusiastic about the opportunity. "I'm rebuilding a club, rebuilding a squad and a big attraction is working with different nationalities, not just of players but staff. My ambition one day is to manage at the top and that [a multinational environment] is what you get at top clubs. I looked and thought it's a great chance to experience it.

"It's a chance to take myself out of my comfort zone and develop as a coach. I could have sat at home and waited – managers get sacked around this time and jobs would have come up, but I think in England we have the best league in the world and a great structure below it and we're a bit stubborn. Not enough managers take that risk and challenge themselves by going abroad. Too many just wait to see what comes up in England.



"To go abroad is a gamble but I believe in myself, and you could say, 'What is a safe option?' Whatever club you go to, as a manager your job's not safe. I just thought this is a way of furthering my education. Yeah, I played at the top, but you go back to square one and I'm at the start of my coaching career and you have to put the work in to get to where you want to go. I want to learn, get better, develop."

He cites the example of Graham Potter, whose gamble was going to the Swedish fourth division and working his way up, and reveals a meeting of minds with the new Chelsea head coach. "I spoke to Graham last year," Rooney, 36, says. "I had a few hours with him on Zoom and he went through his journey with me. He was good, interesting. He was sharing his

ideas and I was sharing mine of how I work. It's good to bounce ideas off another coach – I've done similar with Gareth Southgate and a few others.

"You look at Graham, or Arsène Wenger, who went to Asia. [José] Mourinho has been in different places. Fergie [Sir Alex Ferguson] started with small clubs in Scotland. Patrick Vieira managed over here [at New York City FC] and went to France. Everyone has a different pathway but they all did what they did to educate themselves. Sometimes as a manager you just take the job that's there, and work your way from there."

"You look at Klopp — he is so engaged and emotionally in tune with his players" The field is in Leesburg, to be precise, favoured by younger-end middle-class families attracted by the good schools and outdoorsy life. Google has offices here and Amazon is coming.

In the tranquil cul-de-sac where Rooney house-shares with Pete Shuttleworth, the assistant coach he brought over from Derby, in a villa recently vacated by an NFL star, the neighbours work in government, the

Potomac river and the border

between Maryland and Virginia, a

45-minute drive from DC United's

Audi Field stadium in Washington.

Leesburg is affluent and spacious,

Rooney house-shares with Pete Shuttleworth, the assistant coach he brought over from Derby, in a villa recently vacated by an NFL star, the neighbours work in government, the intelligence services and tech. Its centrepiece is a big screen in the lounge, on which Rooney puts on Aston Villa v Southampton. "On a Saturday, me and Pete can watch

three Premier League games, one at 7.30am, then 12pm, then 2.30pm, and a couple of MLS games in the evening," he says. Recently he told *The Washington Post* that his existence here is "quite boring – a boring life to live, but doing what I love". Rooney says, smiling, "It is. You go in, you work, you go home, and me and Pete are always watching games, constantly looking at players." Who cooks? "Both of us. Look, I'm not going to be doing a Sunday roast but I can make an OK meal."

The field is part of DC United's shiny 30-acre performance centre, opened in October, and a contrast to the shabby pitches near the defunct RFK Stadium in urban Washington where the team trained during Rooney's 18 months with them as a



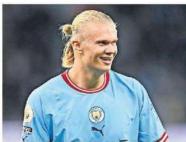
# ROONEY ON VAN GAAL, GRAHAM POTTER, HAALAND AND HIS SON KAI

# **LOUIS VAN GAAL**



'He was the first manager I had who asked the players what they thought. He'd encourage you to speak up'

# **ERLING HAALAND**



'Watching him play is incredible, he makes the difference to City. He's going to be an absolute superstar'

# **GRAHAM POTTER**



'I had a few hours with him on Zoom and he went through his journey with me. He was sharing his ideas'

player. I'm shown round by Lucy Rushton, a sparky, engaging former analyst with Watford and Reading, who came to MLS to play a big part in the rise of Atlanta United as their head of technical recruitment, before being headhunted to become DC United's general manager.

Rooney oversees an intense session led by the French coach Frédéric Brillant (a team-mate when Rooney played for DC) involving possession exercises on increasingly shortened pitches. After appearing to have steadied in performance, DC regressed in a 3-0 defeat away to Sporting Kansas on Tuesday where Rooney felt players "lacked bravery" on the ball. He wants them to be more comfortable taking it in tight areas while also improving out of posses-

# HIS SON KAI'S PUMA PHOTOSHOOT



'If he's going to go down the route of wanting to be a footballer, then he's getting to know that side of things. That's why we let him do it' sion, and stops the session several times to talk to players about maintaining closer distances and shuffling across together when defending.

He inherited a group with low confidence and fitness, and high injury rates, and has worked hard on improving togetherness and culture. His predecessor, the Argentinian Hernán Losada, had a constraining style and under Rooney the training sessions are fewer and shorter but much sharper, with players issued a six-week schedule so they can plan time off with their families. Before, they only found out day to day when the next session was.

Openness and communication are qualities he is big on. These helped at Derby, where Rooney strove to keep players informed about developments during a bleak period of points deductions and administration, and say staffers - the mood has improved at DC. "What's been great over the last few years is you've seen Potter come through, someone with different ideas, in terms of how his team plays and being brave, and seen Frank [Lampard], Steven [Gerrard] and Scott [Parker] – young English managers. For me, knowing how players are and how society is, it's suited to the younger manager – or the more mature ones who are big on communication. Look at [Jürgen] Klopp, for example - you can see he is so engaged and emotionally in tune with his players [at Liverpool].

"The big thing is to treat them as adults," Rooney says. "They're young, but treat them like men and it means a lot to them. You can give them a [tactical] structure but you can't stand next to them on the pitch: they have to take responsibility and make decisions for themselves. I encourage my players to have opinions and bring up whatever they want with me. I like debate. I always say debate brings clarity.

"I've had managers who the players wouldn't speak a word to and the way I work is to ask the players, 'Do you understand what I'm asking of you?' If they don't we can go into more detail and I'll ask what they think. Louis van Gaal did that [at Manchester United]. He was the first manager I had who asked the players what they thought. He'd have meetings and encourage you to speak up."

What about Ferguson – did he encourage debate? "Depends what it was," Rooney says, smiling.

DC face Inter Miami today, a game that brings Rooney up against a pal, his former United and England team-mate Phil Neville. With three games left the likelihood is that DC will still be bottom at the end of the campaign, but Rooney's brief is to revamp and get them in shape for next season and he is excited about having his top scorer, the livewire Greece striker Taxi Fountas, back from concussion. This offers a first chance to partner Fountas with the recent signing Christian Benteke, the hope being that their partnership will prove a key building block in a new team.

DC's budget is the third smallest in their division and Rooney says his owners, Jason Levien and Steve Kaplan, are ambitious and ready to back his drive to improve the squad and widen the club's recruitment net. "I knew it was going to be a big job. The stats don't lie. We need more players to come in January and I've had assurances from the owners about that," Rooney says.

Another way of looking to next season has been to blood youngsters – he

has high hopes for Jackson Hopkins, 18, an intelligent midfielder from DC's academy and last week made the 15-year-old centre back Matai Akinmboni the third-youngest MLS player in history by starting him in a 0-0 draw away to Real Salt Lake.

"Maybe the biggest thing I've learnt so far as a coach is how capable the young players are," Rooney says. "I was forced [by transfer embargos] into using a lot of them at Derby and some coaches are afraid to use youngsters. There's pressure on coaches to win games. But even when my coaches say no, I'll do it if my gut is that they're capable.

"The coaches weren't sure about Matai but he trained really well against Benteke and I said, 'I want to play him, I want to see him.' I'm going into meetings about players I'm bringing in and I wanted to know if, next season when I'm signing defenders, I should leave a spot for him – if he's capable of being the third or fourth-choice centre back and maybe the following season step up to be a starter."

What were his instructions to the

Kai (12) and Klay (nine), his eldest boys, are both doing very well in United's academy. They are strikers; Klay is "more technical. Skills. Nice on the ball," and Kai "is similar to how I was. He's quite raw, aggressive. Short tempered. And — unlike me at that age — he's great in the air actually, scores a lot of headers. He comes over the back of defenders and bullets it into the net.

"Kai and Klay are doing really well with their football and what I say to them is the same thing I said to Matai... enjoy it. Play with a smile on your face. Listen to your coaches.

"I just want to let them enjoy it, let them be kids. Because you can put too much pressure on them, I've seen that with others. That's why I always say to them, 'Be a kid first.'"

Kai was recently signed by Puma and has done his first photoshoot for the brand. "I wasn't sure about him doing it – but it is part of the game and when I got into the first team at Everton I had a real shock, suddenly having to deal with all that side of it. I thought if he's going to go down that



# The biggest thing I've learnt is how capable young players are

kid? "Just to enjoy the game. And I told him, 'You're going to make a mistake – and, when you do, it's no problem.'"

# "I remember wanting to kick Alex Bruce — because of who his dad was"

The biggest issue about coming here was leaving the family behind. "That was a big decision," Rooney says. "You miss the small things. Picking the kids up from school and things like that. But there's people in much worse jobs who don't get to see their kids before they're working away from home for months, and aren't in as fortunate a situation as me. So, it's life. I speak to them every day on FaceTime.

"It's important to give yourself goals and I'm going back next week for a few days during international break, and the family came over for a visit last month. It's having those goals so you know every four or six weeks you've got something to look forward to, in terms of seeing them."

route of wanting to be a footballer and does make it, then in advance he's getting to know that side of things. So that's why we let him do it.

"Me? I was thrown in. For instance, when I first got in at Everton I did a fashion shoot – which was the first and only one I'll ever do. I was in a suit. Shirt open, big collars – *Saturday Night Fever*. I remember saying straight after, 'I'm never doing that again.'

There is something of a colony of former players' children at United's academy. Kai has played in the same team as Cristiano Ronaldo's boy, Cristiano Jr, Michael Carrick's son, Jacey, and Nemanja Matic's son, Filip. "I have got them all together and said, 'Listen, teams will want to kick you, so be ready for that.' I remember playing against Alex Bruce when I was younger and purposely wanted to boot him, because of his dad [Steve]. It's a way to make a name for yourself. And I did – I booted him, I butted him once. We're good friends, me and Alex, but had a lot of run-ins on the pitch... purely because of Steve."

Rooney and Shuttleworth broke their normal routine to venture into a local Irish bar ("It wasn't very Irish") to watch Manchester City v Dortmund on Wednesday. This interview is to mark Rooney's arrangement to produce columns for *The Sunday Times* and remind him that in his first one of this season he told readers Haaland

Continued on page 8→

# **Football**

I've put my playing side to bed. I loved every minute of playing but I'm trying to move away from that now

# → Continued from page 7

was the real deal, and to ignore criticism of the Norwegian's display in the Community Shield.

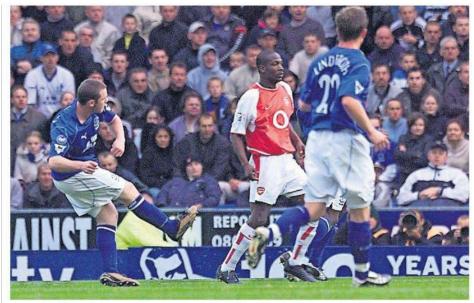
'Yeah, ȟe's doing OK, isn't he?" Rooney says. "I watched his goal against Dortmund and it's interesting he had a chance just before, when it was crossed to him along the floor and the defender nipped in. He went with the outside of his left foot and Pete said, 'I remember you used to do that - why wouldn't Haaland go with his right foot?' I said sometimes as a striker you're just more comfortable doing it that way, than going with your weak foot – and then of course he jumped and scored one in the air with the outside of

"Watching him play is incredible. He'll obviously score goals, like he has been doing, but I just think he makes the difference to City. I think he's unique, he's recognisable, he has presence - on and off the pitch, I think he's going to be an absolute superstar." The next to reach the level of Ronaldo and Lionel Messi?

"I think it's going to be very difficult for anyone to do what Messi and Ronaldo have done. They both have almost 700 club goals. It's insane.'

### "If was at home without football in my life, it would be horrible'

A landmark is approaching: 20 years since Rooney's iconic first senior goal, scorched into the top corner, as a



It is 20 years since Rooney's big breakthrough, scoring the winner against Arsenal

for Everton against Arsenal, in October 2002. He had not thought about the anniversary and is not that interested when I mention it. Memory lane is not really for him. I'm always struck by, as one of the greats of the game, how down-to-earth our columnist is.

A stellar playing career once guaranteed top-level management opportunities. But we are now in the age of coaches with pathways like Potter's. Have things swung the other way? Is being the big-name former footballer almost a hindrance?

"I've never thought in terms of, 'I played at this level, so...' My playing career has been and gone and that's why I said before that I'm at the start of my coaching career and if you want something you've got to put the

"I've put my playing side to bed. I loved every minute of playing, had ups and downs, but I'm trying to move away from that now and establish myself as a manager."

One of the reasons, he says, for doing Rooney, the Amazon Prime documentary about his career released this year, was to reminisce and move on. "It was about putting that part of my life away and moving forward from there.

"Of course, when there are games on TV where you've scored there are good memories, but you can always look back and think, 'When I was 21...' You can do that in any walk of life but unfortunately you can't take yourself back there.'

And now it's the baseball cap, the dugout and a sweltering field in Virginia. "It's mad because I always thought I'd miss playing, and don't really," he says. "But I think if I wasn't in this job, I would.

"If I was just sat at home without football in my life it would be horrible. I'd miss it incredibly. But because you're in it every day, you're putting the sessions on, you're in it even more than you were as a player." At that thought, Rooney smiles.

# **TITLE BE INTERESTING WHAT SOUTHGATE** DOES WITH THE PLAYERS NOT PLAYING

Wayne Rooney will continue writing for The Sunday Times throughout the season and help us to analyse the World Cup. Can England be

victorious? "It'll be tough, obviously. We've only won it once," he says. "Hopefully we can build on the back of Euro 2020 and the women's team winning their Euros, build on that momentum and go the next step.

"England are definitely one of the favourites. They have to be. They're in a group they should get out of — though the US will surprise a few people. But you just don't know. You need a bit of luck, whether it's with the draw or in the games. But England have certainly got the squad.

What does he make of the criticism that has ramped up around Gareth Southgate, after June's disappointing Nations League performances?

Southgate was criticised after **England lost** 4-0 to Hungary

"What do people want? This is the second most successful England team of all time, when you look at it. They've just come off reaching the Euro final. The difference now is there are no friendlies and no

breathing space. The Nations League games are all tough games. The next ones are Italy and Germany games you can lose. People should

take that into account. The Hungary game [June's 4-0 defeat at Molineux] was a one-off and I don't think you can read too much into that. I think the big thing for Gareth is he has a few players who aren't

playing and it'll be interesting to see how he manages that. There's Harry [Maguire], inset, Luke Shaw, Kalvin Phillips and a

few others... It'll be interesting to see what he does with them. "But I'm

really looking forward to this tournament. It'll be my first chance to be in England for a World Cup, getting into the spirit back home."

# **Alyson Rudd**

# Toney brims with belief, but Brentford's big dog may find it hard to feed off scraps with England

By naming a Brentford player in his latest squad, Gareth Southgate is incorporating a dash of the club's magic. It is 83 years since anyone at Brentford earned an England cap but having comfortably survived their Premier League debut last season and with Thomas Frank's side having begun this campaign so thrillingly, it was hardly too radical a decision for the England manager to consider a mini-plunder of the talent available in west London.

Their headline act of this campaign has been Ivan Toney. Yes, he had been a consistent goalscorer both in the Championship and last season in the top flight, but his stunning hat-trick against Leeds United two weeks ago prompted the sort of gushing that Southgate could hardly ignore.

International managers can pander to public adoration with no risk attached. Toney will get half an hour or so against Italy on Friday and if he dazzles will perhaps get more minutes against Germany, but otherwise, he will be judged by the coaches on his personality as much as his performance.

Southgate has spent six years trying to forge a unified team where once there were schisms and he will not jeopardise that for the sake of the latest craze. With the World Cup two months away, Toney would be at best a squad player and that would require the striker to be the sort of character who offers unselfish support and accepts his status. There is no evidence that Toney is anything other than a generous team-mate but there is

evidence that the 26-year-old is brimming with self-belief and would not be content to go to Qatar just for the ride.

How, then, would he squeeze his way into the starting line-up? Southgate, inherently cautious, would baulk at deploying both Toney and Harry Kane and yet these are the epitome of strikers that would work hard enough in tandem to dissipate any risk. Kane drops deep when the game dictates and Toney covers more ground than most forwards. He is used to having a strike partner so knows how to split the pitch and share the duties. Together they would be tricky for any defence to contend with.

On the other hand, imagine England winning a spot-kick with both on the field. Kane is his country's first-choice penalty taker, but Toney is arguably a much better choice. Frank calls him the best penalty taker in the world and if you think that's biased, just take a look at his style and his stats. He has taken 18 penalties for Brentford, has never missed and has never been anything other than audacious. There is no run-up, just a nonchalant hovering close to the ball and then, at the first twitch shown by the goalkeeper, Toney blasts the ball in the opposite corner. It is mesmeric but also



Southgate has rewarded Toney for his fine form with Brentford

evidence of a forward possessing exceptional levels of confidence.

Even so, could he thrive for England? Brentford run and then run some more. They are relentless athletes that flit from closing down in the style of a willing underdog to expansive, thrilling counterattacks

**Brentford run and** then run some more but England can be ponderous and dull. Toney may not adapt quick enough

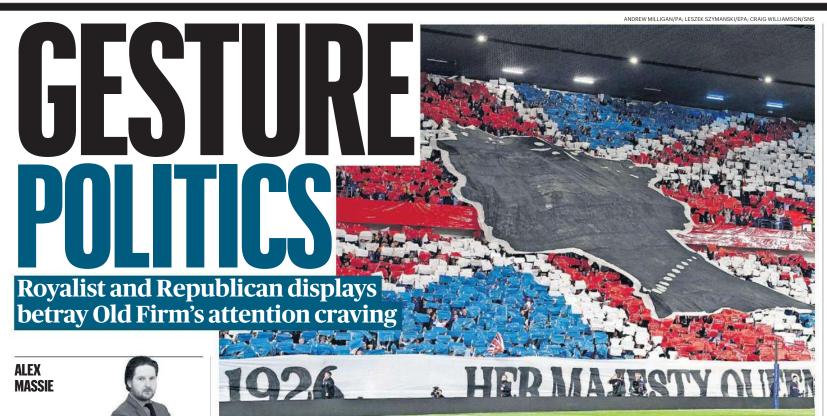
that have scythed through the very best sides. By contrast, England can be ponderous, patient and dull. Toney may not adapt as quickly as he needs to in time for Qatar.

Brentford are more Danish than English and when being watched by Southgate Ben Mee, the defender who joined from Burnley this summer, would have been the only other contender to take his eye except Mee has never taken Southgate's eye. It remains one of the small mysteries of the past decade as to why he has never been capped, especially as Mee would bring a calm authority to a defence in the midst of an identity crisis.

It is hard, at a smaller club, to be brought into the England fold and right now Southgate seems to prefer the residual experience of Harry Maguire over the experience of Mee, in spite of how fond Southgate is of handing out debuts.

It will be as easy to drop Toney as it was to call him up, though. Southgate lives in two worlds, one in which he recognises present form and one in which he rewards longstanding relationships.

Toney has to hope that Italy concede a penalty while Kane is not on the pitch and that we are all so thrilled by his showmanship that he is given a second - and all important – third chance to shine.



Glasgow's George Square was filled with raucous, flag-waving young men, many of them sporting Rangers shirts.

Each defines itself against the other. The young men singing hymns to the IRA are not seriously thirsting for a return to the armed struggle for Irish unification any more than Rangers supporters relishing the prospect of being "up to our knees in Fenian blood" are indicating their support for cleansing west and central Scotland of its Catholic population.

Strip away the posing and the poison and you are left with this glum reality: few people outside Scotland would be terribly interested in Rangers versus Celtic. It is the manic hatred which gives the fixture its gruesome appeal. It is a fascinating spectacle because of, not despite, its sectarianism. Remove it and all that remains is a derby fixture not very different from countless others across Europe: of interest to partisans but demanding no more external attention than, say, Benfica versus Sporting or Roma against Lazio. The only thing worse than being talked about, the Glasgow giants may agree, is not being talked about at all.

hen Graeme Souness became manager of Rangers in 1986, one of his first demands was that a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II be hung in the home dressing room at Ibrox. It has remained there ever since. "It was important to me that the club, a Protestant institution, should have it there," Souness recalled last week. This despite the fact that he broke Rangers' embargo on employing

openly Catholic players when he

signed Mo Johnston in 1989.

Still, the "Queen's XI", as some Rangers fans like to consider their club – though there is no evidence that this sentiment was reciprocated by Her Majesty – is staunch and loyal. So it was scarcely a surprise that the club ignored Uefa's prohibition on the singing of the national anthem before their Champions League home fixture against Napoli last week. Supporters displayed a huge "tifo" of the Union Jack, adorned by the Queen's silhouette and – to hell with Uefa – God Save the King was played through the public address system before kick-off.

Across Europe, in Warsaw, Celtic fans rose to the bait proffered them by the Queen's death. The Green Brigade of Celtic ultras unfurled two banners in response to Her Majesty's passing. One read: "Sorry for your loss, Michael Fagan", referring to the intruder who somehow made his way into the Queen's bedroom at Buckingham Palace in 1982. The other, more pithily, stated: "F\*\*\* the Crown".

Another week, then, and another demonstration of Glaswegian football's insatiable appetite for sectarian point-scoring and provocation. Uefa has begun disciplinary proceedings against Celtic but, on this occasion, have given Rangers a pass.

Football is a sectarian – or at least tribal – pursuit at the best of times and few places enjoy 90-minute bigotry more than Glasgow. Old Firm fixtures are occasions for the swapping of ancient hymns of hate: Rangers still sing *The Sash* and other Ulster Loyalist anthems; Celtic supporters continue to sing pro-IRA and Republican songs. If this is preposterous, it is also the case that it can be intoxicating. Most

of the players are not Scottish, yet many of them cheerfully buy into these pantomimes of bigotry. Who can forget England's Paul Gascoigne

Order marching flute?

It may baffle outside observers but for many Scots it is so banal that it now scarcely warrants comment. Perversely, talking about sectarianism in Scottish football may actually encourage it. The point is to provoke and offend. Howls of outrage from public figures are proof of success. Ignoring the matter cannot make it disappear but, however pitiful this may seem, nor does addressing it

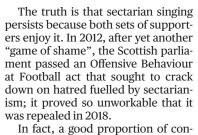
celebrating a goal against Celtic in 1998 by pretending to play an Orange

nor does addressing it.

Politicians and journalists like to complain that sectarianism is "Scotland's shame". It is true that hospitals are busy places on Old Firm nights and that these fixtures typically and appallingly coincide with an uptick in domestic violence. It seems likely, however, that this is more a result of fans investing too much emotionally in football than it is a question of theological disagreement.

Rangers fans at Ibrox paid tribute to the Queen but Celtic banners in Warsaw reflected a very different sentiment, with one referring to Michael Fagan, the intruder who broke into the Queen's bedroom

Few places enjoy 90-minute bigotry more than Glasgow'



embarrassed by the antics of their more vociferous brethren, but neither club wishes to blink first or risk losing face by accepting they have a problem. "Whataboutery" is a curse on discourse everywhere, but Old Firm fans have made an art form of it. Sometimes this is so ludicrous as to become almost funny; if Celtic fans wave Palestine flags, Rangers will counter this with Israeli ones.

Rangers sing *We Are The People*, a bullish declaration of cultural supremacy only rarely matched by footballing superiority in recent years. Celtic, for their part, consider themselves the eternal underdogs, outsiders forever given the short end of the stick by the Scottish footballing establishment. This pretence is maintained despite winning 52 Scottish league titles, including ten of the past 11 championships.

Divisions between blue and green have previously not been limited to religion. The decline of the working-class Orange vote in western Scotland is one factor contributing to the Conservative Party's struggles in the country, and the SNP's success in persuading Catholic voters to desert the Labour Party is an important element in the nationalists' rise to political hegemony. When Scotland voted against independence in 2014,



# Why our yeast needs to be locked up

You might well wonder why we lock away our yeast. Until you learn how important it is to the flavour of our beer. We use our own unique strain called, appropriately, Taylor's Taste. The properties of this particular yeast are vital to giving Landlord its deep and complex yet crisp and clean flavour. It's so valuable to us that every year two samples of Taylor's Taste are carefully transported to separate secret locations and stored securely under lock and key, just in case the precious yeast here at the brewery is ever compromised or damaged. It might seem over cautious, but it's all for that taste of Taylor's.

All for that taste of Taylor's



# **Rod Liddle**

Boehly's idea is flawed. It wouldn't be a game between northerners and southerners barely any of those involved would even be English

he owner of Chelsea, the Maryland-born businessman Todd Boehly, has come up with a plan for Premier League clubs to make even more money. He has suggested that there should be an exhibition match between the best players from the North and South of England. His idea is drawn from the North v South games which occur across a variety of sports in his own country, particularly Major League Baseball, where, he claims, such a geographically determined all-star fixture netted £170 million.

Premier League managers and, indeed, the Professional Footballers' Association have been quick to stamp on the proposal. Jürgen Klopp stopped grinning for a minute to explain that there wasn't enough time, a view echoed by Ralph Hasenhüttl. The consensus seems to be that the calendar is crowded enough as it is – and it is true that US sports have a longer close season than football, which scarcely has one at all.

It is an intriguing suggestion, mind, although not, of course, a new

one. Romelu Lukaku ventured the same thing four years ago and, indeed, there have been North v South matches in all of England's most popular sports, albeit a long time ago. There were 22 fixtures in football, for example, beginning in 1870, when the South were 1-0 victors in a game played at the Oval.

The North subsequently came out on top overall, before the last such match was played in 1925. There was a women's football game in 1895, which the North won 7-1.

There have been plenty of North v South fixtures in rugby union, where they have been used largely as trial games (and still are for the under-20s) - the first such taking place at a blustery Barrow in Furness in 1881 (a victory for the South). Cricket has the lengthiest and earliest history of such fixtures. The first game between North and South was won with some ease by the North at a shocked and piqued Lord's in 1836 (the South got its own back the following year) and fixtures continued intermittently until the second half of the following century. The last was played at Trent Bridge, in 1971.



The question, then, is what has changed to make such fixtures less attractive today? One answer is that the football timetable is certainly more congested, which is why we no longer have those rather agreeable home internationals. There is a superfluity of international matches and international club tournaments, but I do not think this is the main reason for the opposition. In games between the North and the South in yesteryear, it was highly likely that

'What, then, would be the motivation for playing? And how could the players manufacture an allegiance? The same goes for the supporters' the players on each side would come from the geographical region they were representing. In other words, one could genuinely posit the match as a fixture between northerners and southerners. That is clearly not the case any more – indeed, the majority of players on either side would not even be English.

What, then, would be their motivation for playing? How could they manufacture an allegiance? The same goes for the supporters.





I suspect it is no longer the case that fans in Manchester, Liverpool and Leeds would find common cause with one another. North v South is kind of meaningless if there is not the slightest geographical rootedness in either of the two teams.

Another problem is where one draws the line between North and South – an old argument and one I am always prepared to engage in, believing, as I do, that everywhere beyond Thirsk is the "South". Steven



Gerrard was one of the few managers to express a degree of enthusiasm for Mr Boehly's proposal, but for which side would his own players at Aston Villa compete? The more common definition of the dividing line is the River Trent at Nottingham, which would put Villa, Wolverhampton Wanderers, Leicester City and Derby County in with the South. It would be a very one-sided fixture, I reckon.

In fact, if the boundary were to be drawn to give a fair balance between the sides, it would stretch along the North Circular: fully half of the Premier League is comprised of teams from London and the South East, such has been the shift of wealth and power in the game over the past 20-30 years. And what do we do about the Welsh teams? Just ignore them? I suppose London versus the Rest does have a cuter ideological ring to it, given that this political divide is present and recognisable (and, indeed, there were plenty of exhibition or trial matches on such a basis in the past century). Another suggestion may be to have English players versus the Rest, as also happened during the previous century. The England side tended to lose heavily and they would lose even more heavily today, I suspect.

Still, it's all given the sports reporters a chance to draw up their own respective teams (something I have resisted doing). But the idea won't fly and I think Mr Boehly knows it, just as he knows that another dubious idea, the Super League, will be back on the agenda sometime soon.

# EXTRA Time

# with Jonny Owen



You may have seen the viral video of the Welsh actor Michael Sheen on Sky's *League of their Own* last week doing a rousing speech when asked what he'd say to the Wales team in the dressing room before their first World Cup game.

It was one of those moments where you know something must have happened because I came out of a meeting to a load of missed messages: "Have you seen this, Jonny?" Most of them were from English mates saying that it made them want to play for Wales! I checked it out and then played it about 40 times that afternoon and sent it to just about every person I know.

I don't know Sheen personally, even though there's a cliché that we must all have grown up together in Wales, but I have met him. It was, in true luvvie style, in a lift at the Soho Hotel. "Michael!" I said as I got in and he stood there with some PR folk, "Jonny Owen, from Merthyr Tydfil." He smiled, shook my hand and said: "Michael Sheen, from Port Talbot!"

I felt like saying, "I know, you're one of my favourite actors ever and



from the Liverpool of thespians. You follow a great tradition of San Portablo (as we call it) boys who have taken on the world. Burton, Hopkins and now you. Can there be a town on the planet with such a rich history of people who have 'trod the boards' with such genius?" But unfortunately I got to my floor before I could say any of it.

Sheen's speech on the show would have come straight from his heart. He has form for this, you can just google him to see it. A natural orator and storyteller, he once told a wonderful story of a great-grandfather who found God while

looking up at the night sky after a day on the beer. He sounded like the

people I grew up with as a boy and listened to with such wide-eyed wonder – people who told stories that stretch way back in the Celtic oratory tradition.

When he talks of red mists sweeping the valleys and a crimson thunder rolling over the mountains, he talks of our ancestors. He talks of the great Jimmy Murphy and the boys of the 1958 World Cup. Names emblazoned on

the Welsh soul, such as John Charles and Ivor Allchurch. You see, the Welsh anthem is our

You see, the Welsh anthem is our haka. In the same way the Maoris call on the people who came before them, we do the same. Our anthem tells us of our forefathers and mothers, of warrior poets.

When we finally qualified for Qatar, against Ukraine, the air that night was heavy with history. I thought of my own father and grandfather, Brian and Gwyn, and as the anthem boomed out into the Welsh evening sky I had to swallow a sob that came up from my chest as I realised I had tears running down my cheeks.

An English friend who covered both ours and the Scots' play-off games said it felt different from Hampden Park. There were no Welsh politicians in the Ukraine end, no former Wales players saying they did not mind if Ukraine won. Robert Page, the Wales manager, said afterwards that we wished it had been anyone else, but we had to win that game.

I recently interviewed Rob for a documentary series I'm doing for the BBC and he's a son of the Rhondda to his bones; he has coal in his blood and you can see in his eyes what it meant to him. Rob is for ever a hero in his homeland, like Sheen.

Here is a man – Sheen – who could live comfortably in Hollywood for the rest of his life, but has chosen to come home to his beloved Wales. He talks eloquently about politics and quietly gives his time and money to worthy causes. There's talk now

about the Wales team wanting him there before the first game. Sheen, of course, brilliantly played one of the greatest football

managers and motivators of them all, Brian Clough,

in The Damned United.
The great man
himself said that
he was closer to
managing Wales
than England, and
would have been
proud of that
speech, I'm sure.
Go on boys, give
them some sugar.
Give them some
Welsh sugar!





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# Rugby Union Gallagher Premiership

# **SARACENS TAK** ADVANTAGE OF SMITH'S ABSENC

**Alex Lowe** 

arcus Smith did grace the lush green turf of The Stoop yesterday but only for a fitness session before most ticket-hold-ers had taken their expensive seats. Such are the vagaries of England's player welfare programme that the fly half was refused permission to play in this rip-roaring London derby, whereas Saracens were rammed with returning internationals.

It was galling for the Harlequins fans to watch those players who had been granted a permission slip from Eddie Jones, the England coach, play an integral role as Saracens came roaring back from 17-0 down to claim a bonus-point victory, most notably Billy Vunipola and Owen Farrell.

Saracens, playing their first game of the season after being handed a bye in round one, attacked Harlequins with a new, more adventurous game plan, running from deep and keeping the ball alive with offloads out of contact.

It was not without its risks and pitfalls, with one error gifting Joe Marchant a try in the corner as Harlequins opened a 24-12 half-time lead, but when Saracens found their groove they were an unstoppable force.

. Vunipola, having regained the England No8 jersey in the summer, was outstanding, injecting power and energy into their game. Farrell was supremely effective at fly half, both in triggering the Saracens attack but also applying the pressure at key moments in the second half.

Saracens began their comeback with tries from Elliot Daly and two from Max Malins either side of the interval before Nick Tompkins crossed to put them ahead for the first time after 61 minutes and they held out during a tense final quarter.

Tabai Matson, the Harlequins head coach, was careful with his words after the game but his body language screamed frustration that Smith had been sidelined for such a big game. "I can't [explain]," Matson said. "All we do is put a plan in and we get the thumbs up or thumbs down. Tommy Allan did a spectacular job and we hung in there.

Allan did play well and his brave kick into the corner gave Harlequins one last chance to win the game, only for Dino Lamb to be penalised for a lineout offence by sliding in front of

the difference is impossible to say but Saracens benefited enormously from their England contingent of Billy after delivering another mighty shift,

Mark McCall, the Saracens director



the catcher. That was the game.
Whether Smith would have made

Vunipola, who was man of the match Farrell, Maro Itoje, Mako Vunipola and Jamie George.

of rugby, applauded the system that allows clubs to apply for dispensation on a case-by-case basis for players to return early from the mandatory tenweek summer break.

# **GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP**

	P	W	D	L	F	Α	В	Pts
Sale	2	2	0	0	66	42	2	10
Bristol	2	2	0	0	54	37	1	9
Leicester	2	1	0	1	56	45	2	6
Northampton	2	1	0	1	60	51	2	6
Harlequins	2	1	0	1	67	61	2	6
L Irish	2	1	0	1	67	52	1	5
Gloucester	1	1	0	0	27	21	1	5
Saracens	1	1	0	0	30	27	1	5
Exeter	1	1	0	0	24	20	0	4
Bath	2	0	0	2	49	68	1	1
Wasps	2	0	0	2	29	50	1	1
Newcastle	2	0	0	2	52	76	1	1
Worcester	1	0	0	1	14	45	0	0

"It shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all. I certainly see it as a sensible process," he said. "We chose to start Maro, Billy and Owen and they were a big part of why we won today. Jamie and Mako's experience coming off the bench at this kind of place is good but it was a good team performance. Billy hasn't played a lot of rugby over the last few seasons and is desperate to get back into the international set-up. Eddie wants him to play, Billy wants to play and we're keen for him.'

Cadan Murley scored twice in the first eight minutes, his second after Alex Dombrandt had stripped Ivan Van Zyl of possession and galloped

clear. Saracens responded with tries from Daly and Malins, their speed of ball and offloading behind dynamic carries from Vunipola and Ben Earl stretching Harlequins.

The unexpected sense of adventure backfired when a mistake led to Marchant's try but Saracens upped the intensity after the break, with Tompkins scoring after a couple of lovely contributions from Farrell.

That led to a compelling final quarer. Allan and Daly exchanged penalties before Harlequins blew that late lineout opportunity and Saracens had the win, with Itoje sealing an abrasive afternoon by pouncing on a loose ball

# **Clueless Bath let** 14-man Sale off the hook

ВАТН	20
SALE SHARKS	37

# **Stuart Barnes**

The first 40 minutes of the new season was a dire case of déjà vu for the long suffering Bath fans. Sale were so superior it was embarrassing. It didn't take the visitors long to score the opening try with the impressive new signing from Exeter, Tom O' Flaherty, finishing off a forwards drive after some slick handling by Sale's back line.

Seven points behind after four minutes, Piers Francis missed a kick from in front of the posts but Bath received a break as Nick Schonert was red-carded for a head-on-head tackle on Dave Attwood. Accidental it may have been, but the game is intent on eradicating these technically terrible tackles, even if the reality is that the punishment far outweighed the crime.

Sale, with James Harper on for the red-carded prop and Tom Roebuck, the beautifully balanced right winger sacrificed, won a scrum penalty and

Francis this time succeeded with his effort. After an exchange of penalties by the fly halves, 14-man Sale stunned Bath with prop forward, Simon McIntyre popping a delightful pass into the arms of Akker Van der Merwe. The South African hooker human pinball - bounced his way through three tackles, carrying over Bath skipper Ben Spencer who was injured in the attempt to stop the try.

With his pack dominant at the breakdown, Robert du Preez kicked two more penalties, leaving Sale 17 points clear.

Bath woke up immediately after half-time, turning an overlap into a try for Joe Cokanasiga, the winger quiet until that 42nd minute. But any hopes of a revival were dented 10 minutes later as O' Flaherty threw an inside pass which Tom Curry, only on

the field a minute, finished.
For all the advantage of their extra
man, Bath entered the final quarter 17 points behind. Bath kicked a penalty for the corner, instead of the posts.



Tom Curry dots down for a Sale try just a minute after coming on

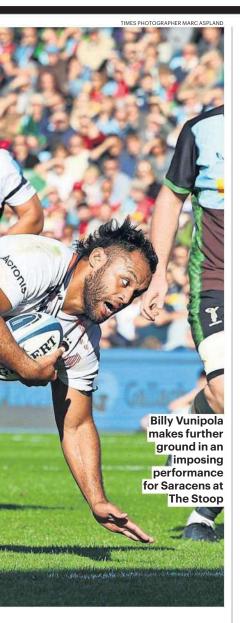
From the lineout they were awarded another penalty. They opted for the five-metre scrum. Another penalty, another scrum and inevitably, another scrum penalty and replacement loose-head, Ross Harrison, was carded. Sale were down to 13 men against a Bath scrum, the

home side's only area of superiority.

In its own way, Bath's utter reliance on the scrum advantage was pathetic, especially with Sale now short of two men. Eventually, and again inevitably, clueless Bath conceded a penalty and after a tenminute siege Sale escaped. Bath were desperate in two senses of the word and Tom de Glanville raced over to narrow the Sale lead to 10 points with a conversion following from Francis.

From the restart, the Bath fly half cross-kicked as he had for much of the match. To no avail. Sale maintained defensive shape despite their numerical impediments. As we waited to see whether Sale, back to 14 men, had scored the bonus point fourth try, Bath's fans were flooding out of the old grandstand.

Their loyalty looks set to be tested, once again. They played like a team who didn't deserve to be in the Premiership. Remember, they finished bottom of last season's table. As for Sale, Jono Ross did score that



to secure possession. Smith could only watch on ruefully.

Star man Billy Vunipola (Saracens)
Harlequins: Tries Murley 2min, 7; Marchant 35.
Cons: Allan 3. Pens: Allan 4, 9, 36.
Saracens: Tries Daly 20, Malins, 27, 45; Tompkins
61. Cons Farrell 2. Pens: Daly, Farrell.
Harlequins T Green; J Marchant, L Northmore,
L Anyanwu C Murley; T Allan, L Gjaltema
(J Stafford 71); J Marler (S Kerrod, 59), G Head
(J Walker, 49), W Collier (W Louw, 20), G
Hammond (D Lamb 62), I Herbst, J Kenningham,
W Evans, A Dombrandt (A White, 37).
Saracens E Daly; M Malins, A Lozowski (D Taylor
75), N Tompkins, A Lewington; O Farrell, I Van Zyl
(Davis 53-64); E Mawi (M Vunupola, 47), T
Woolstencroft (J George, 47), C Judge (A Clarey
62), M Itoje, H Tizard, T McFarland (A Christie 62),
B Earl, B Vunipola (J Wray 75).
Referee T Foley

fourth try to send them into week three with a maximum 10 points.

Jonny Hill and O' Flaherty are excellent signings while Du Preez has a physical edge to his game at fly half that enables them to win the gain line without any attacking contribution from Manu Tuilagi. When George Ford returns in December, Sale could be some team. They are not too bad now. For Bath the only consolation is that there is no relegation again.

Star man: Robert du Preez (Sale)
Scorers: Bath: Tries: Cokanasiga, De Glanville
Cons Francis (2) Pens Francis (2).
Sale: Tries: O'Flaherty, Van der Merwe, T Curry,
Ross. Cons Du Preez (4). Pens: Du Preez (3).
Bath T de Glanville; J Cokanasiga, J Joseph, C
Redpath, W Muir (O Bailey 75); P Francis, B
Spencer (L Schreuder 28); L Boyce (J Schoeman
53), T Dunn (T Doughty 75), A Coetzee (W Stuart
53), D Attwood, J McNally (GJ van Velze 56), J
Bayliss, W White, J Coetzee (R de Carpentier 38).
Sale L James (A Reed 43); T Roebuck (J Harper 13),
S James, M Tuilagi, T O' Flaherty (T Curtis 75); R du
Preez, G Warr (J Simpson 79); S McIntyre (R
Harrison 52), A van der Merwe (E Ashman 64), N
Schonert (red card 7), C Wiese (T Curtis 50), J Hill,
JL du Preez, B Curry (S McIntyre 64), D du Preez (J

# Power-packed Nadolo shows champions Leicester exactly what they will be missing

**LEICESTER TIGERS** 

36

**NEWCASTLE FALCONS** 

21

### **Chris Jones**

Leicester Tigers will lose the frightening running power of Nemani Nadolo midway through the season when he heads to Australia and the two tries he scored as the champions registered a bonus-point victory against Newcastle Falcons showed how difficult he will be to replace.

Nadolo, who will link up with
NSW Waratahs for their 2023
campaign, is playing well enough to
warrant selection for Fiji's World
Cup squad next year and in this
match he was a try maker as well as
a scorer. Only a knock on stopped
him celebrating a hat-trick as
Leicester extended their winning
run at home in the Premiership to
14, while Newcastle's losing streak
has reached six despite their newfound tryscoring ability.

Newcastle only trailed 26-21 as the game entered the final ten minutes, but Leicester pulled clear with an Olly Cracknell try. The biggest cheer was reserved for Nadolo as he left the contest with six minutes remaining.

"Nemani is a very powerful ball carrier, he adds a lot to the team and knows the way to the tryline," Steve Borthwick, the Leicester head coach, said. "Off the field, he adds a lot and is a great personality. We have Nemani here for a few months Nadolo celebrates scoring Leicester's second try and he narrowly missed bagging a hat-trick



and we will enjoy having the quality he brings."

Leicester, who narrowly lost away to Exeter Chiefs in the opening round, started with real purpose, with Guy Porter's mazy run freeing Nadolo on the left wing.

He swatted away the tackle of Adam Radwan before the ball was moved right, where Harry Potter was stopped short, but the prop, James Conin, had enough strength to make the line for Jimmy Gopperth to convert. Newcastle were struggling to get hold of the ball and relentless pressure led to Porter creating more space with clever footwork. His pass found Nadolo, who managed to defy gravity and launch his 20st frame into the air to reach the tryline.

Newcastle, who are looking to involve their wings more, responded with an attacking lineout. George McGuigan passed out wide to Nathan Earle, who gave scrum half Josh Barton a scoring pass. Brett Connon converted.

Earle then went off with a shoulder injury after helping Newcastle move up field and their pressure was rewarded when a brilliant kick by Connon earned a 50-22 lineout five metres from the home line. Again, Newcastle tried a clever move that was initially stopped, but two forward drives later McGuigan dived over for his 14th try of the calendar year.

This produced a powerful response from Leicester, with the scrum half, Ben Youngs, making his

200th appearance, delivering a midfield break. He handed the ball on to Nadolo, who was airborne again as he scored under the posts for Gopperth to convert. Two minutes later, Nadolo collected the ball from Harry Wells and his inside pass found Chris Ashton, who raced 30 metres to score and register the bonus point. The second half was barely seven minutes old when Mateo Carreras produced a dazzling solo try, benefiting from Youngs spilling a kick. The wing side-stepped one would-be tackler and turned another inside out to score. Newcastle thought they had a bonus-point try when Radwan raced over, only for the score to be ruled out for a forward pass.

The referee had to rule out what appeared to be Nadolo's hat-trick try after replays showed Tommy Reffell had knocked the ball on in the build-up. But they did collect a fifth try through Cracknell.

Star man Nemani Nadolo (Leicester).
Scorers; Leicester: Tries Cronin (2), Nadolo (6,36)
Ashton (38), Cracknell (72) Cons Gopperth 4.
Pen Gopperth. Newcastle: Tries Barton (17),
McGuigan (31), Carreras(47). Cons Connon 3.
Leicester C Ashton; H Potter, M Scott (J
Cokanasiga 66), G Porter, N Nadolo, (Murimurivalu
74), J Gopperth, B Youngs (J Van Poortvliet 53); J
Cronin (K Van Wyk 58), C Clare (J Taufete'e 74), D
Cole (J Heyes 58), H Wells, C Green (T Reffell 48),
G Martin (O Cracknell 70) O Chessum, H
Liebenberg.
Newcastle A Tait, A Radwan, G Wacokecoke,
P Lucock, N Earle (M Carreras 23), B Connon (T

Newcastle A Tait, A Radwan, G Wacokecoke, P Lucock, N Earle (M Carreras 23), B Connon (T Schoeman 58), J Barton (C Nordli-Kelemeti 53); P Brantingham, (C Cade 66) G McGuigan (C Maddison 70), T Davison (M Tampin 65), G Peterson, S Robinson, W Welch, J Blamire, (S De Chaves 64), C Fearns (C Collett 58).

Referee C Maxwell-Keys.

Attendance 18,106.

# Furbank keeps cool to guide Northampton to win

George Furbank took on the captaincy when Dan Biggar fell ill on the eve of the match and led Northampton Saints to a 38-22 victory against London Irish.

Furbank crossed for the home side's fourth try at Franklin's Gardens to seal a bonus-point win and showed a cool, calm head in a bizarre game during which, at one point, the exiles were reduced to 12 men after having three players sent to the sin-bin. They also lost two players to injury on a day to forget.

"It was a bizarre first half,"
Furbank said. "It seemed to take for ever because of all the stoppages.
They had three guys in the bin and two serious injuries and we struggled to finish off our tries and build points and pressure. But we played some smart rugby in the second half and capitalised. We're happy to take the five points and make up for last weekend's loss to Sale."

The scrum half, Alex Mitchell, was outstanding for the home side, who led 10-0 at the interval after taking advantage of the Irish disarray.

James Grayson took over the No 10 jersey in place of Biggar but it was the No 9, Mitchell, who lit up the game when he scooped up an Irish kick near his own 22, caught his own chip through and supplied the perfect

MIXED FORTUNES FOR IRISH PROVINCES

On the opening weekend of the United Rugby Championship, Munster slipped to a first defeat to Cardiff in four years. New head coach, former England prop Graham Rowntree, saw his side lose 20-13.

Leinster held off

Zebre to win 33-29 in Parma. Leinster had been 21-0 ahead after just 26 minutes, but the home side got within four points with nine minutes remaining. Leinster then saw out time without conceding to prevent a first loss in 17 meetings against Zebre.

pass out wide right for Juarno Augustus. The powerful No 8 was not for stopping, defying one tackler to charge over in the corner. Grayson converted.

A crazy final three minutes of the first half left Irish walking off the field with just 12 men, having had three players shown yellow cards. The flanker Tom Pearson was sent to the sin-bin for a dangerous clear-out, which also meant that Henry Arundell's superb long-range try was disallowed. Irish, who lost the prop Facundo Gigena and the lock and captain Adam Coleman to injury, then had Arundell sent to the bin for deliberately tapping the ball into touch with Saints on the attack. He was quickly followed by the lock Rob Simmons for collapsing a maul.

Despite their numerical disadvantage, Irish managed to close the gap through a Paddy Jackson penalty but even when they were back to full strength, Saints were able to coast to victory.

Ollie Sleightholme and then Mitchell crossed, Grayson kicked a penalty and the game looked to be over. But Irish never give up and they scored two quick tries through Will Joseph and then a penalty try, when Grayson blatantly knocked on as Curtis Rona's pass was about to set



Furbank dives for the line and the bonus-point fourth try

Ben Donnell over the line. But Furbank landed two penalties and also converted his own try as Saints eased clear. Ollie Hassell-Collins's late try was a consolation for Irish.

Elsewhere, Bristol Bears made it two wins from two at the start of the Gallagher Premiership season as they won 23-8 away to Wasps.

Callum Sheedy and Magnus Bradbury scored the tries, with Sheedy also kicking 13 points as Bristol built on their 31-29 victory against their local rivals Bath on the opening weekend.

# That Mickey Skinner tackle in Paris? Amazing... but now you see ten of those in a game'

Martin Bayfield on being Robbie Coltrane's double, selling a Mars bar for £150 and battling insecurities

STEPHEN JONES



**Rugby Correspondent** 

hen Martin Bayfield retired from playing after 31 England caps and a British & Irish Lions tour, he had a difficult time. He tried coaching ("I soon realised that I didn't know enough about rugby"), running the Northampton Saints academy, working in marketing, but nothing came close to his wonderful experiences playing in the amateur era.

He had been a policeman too in his playing days, had won commendations, missed the camaraderie...

He briefly dipped a toe into the professional game: "I trained harder, put on strength and power." The trouble was he "was bigger and stronger, but couldn't play rugby any more". In short, everyone started training like mad but lost their instincts, and the game no longer needed their skills.

Yet a few years ago, you realised that Bayfield had definitively found himself. The Lord's Taverners charity laid on their Christmas lunch in a Park Lane hotel. Top of the bill was the great Barry Cryer, who died recently but is still acclaimed as the grandfather of British comedy. One step down the bill was Bayfield.

Bayfield rose to his feet, and at 6ft 10in it took him some time – he stands up in sections. His speech was devastatingly funny, and he received a standing ovation when he sat down.

Cryer, the old pro, knew which side his bread roll was buttered on. "I have to follow that?" he said aloud to the audience. He told one long joke and, amiably, sat down.

By that time Bayfield had already embarked on a career in film that lasted ten happy years. Out of the blue he had applied for and won the role of body double for Robbie Coltrane, who played the giant Rubeus Hagrid in the Harry Potter films. He loved every moment.

Bayfield, now 55, had been an excellent player who played a key role in the 1993 Lions Test win in Wellington, and two years later, by winning a lineout and driving the ball, he set the position

for the drop- goal by Rob Andrew that won the World Cup quarter-final against Australia. Admittedly, Bayfield had thus contributed to England being caught square in the sights of Jonah Lomu for the sensational semi-final, but how was he to know?

Three people did not rate him, it seems. One was a well-known coach he would not name who, as he was walking by, observed to others that Bayfield had a "yellow streak". The second was Ursula, his mother, who was originally from East Prussia and who had a spectacularly vivid life herself. One observation by Ursula sticks in his head: "'England played well at the weekend. You? Not so much.' She could be a bloody nightmare like that."

And the third, to a degree, was Bayfield himself. His book, *A Very Tall Story*, is richly entertaining, funny and revealing. But he is so self-deprecating about his ability that sometimes you wonder how he ever took the field. "When I came into the England team, they were all my absolute heroes," he tells me at his home in Northampton. "There was Will Carling, Jeremy Guscott, Wade Dooley who was and remains my idol, Dean Richards, Brian Moore and all the rest.

"I wanted to be like Wade, Dean or those guys who just went smashing people out of the way. I was so in awe of them. I'd always been this gangly, streaky kid. I guess it was just insecurity, and it's maybe what I still have. Am I good enough?"

Another line in the book resounded. He sat down recently with George Kruis, the Saracens and England lock. "He looked at me and said: 'I don't want to hear anything about the modern game. I just want to hear stories about your era. It just sounds insane."

Today's pro players are so dedicated that they seem to have no knowledge of their surroundings or their history. You wonder how many would benefit from hearing all about where they came from.

Parts of the book make you wonder how the last generation ever stag-





In his book Bayfield recounts a story he heard Michael Gambon tell, while they were on location in Scotland filming one of the Harry Potter movies, about a lunch Gambon had had with Al Pacino. The Godfather actor wanted to know all about Gambon's knighthood and "what perks came with it".

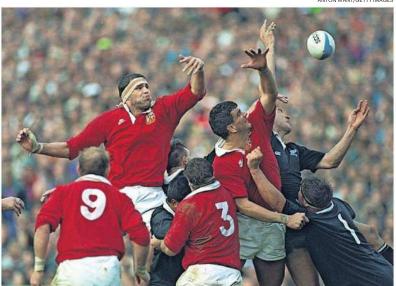
"As quick as a flash," Bayfield writes, "Gambon pulled out his hotel key card and told Pacino, 'You get a knight's card. The card means that you can approach four women each year and they cannot refuse you or they are thrown into the Tower of London."

Soon after he had said this, "a good-looking middle-aged woman walked into the restaurant and sat at a table nearby. 'Here, I'll show you,' he told Pacino, standing up and approaching her.

"'Go with me on this,' he told her. 'I am trying to wind up Al Pacino. Will you walk with me out of the restaurant?''

She did and
Gambon took her
around the corner for a
coffee, returning to the
dining room together a
little later. "I was doing
up my trousers and
she was tucking in her
blouse," Gambon
explained. "And I sat
back down at the table
and said to Pacino: 'I've
got two left this year."

Pacino's response? 'I've got to get me one of those knighthoods!'''



Bayfield, left, and a young Johnson lose a lineout to the All Blacks in 1993



Bayfield cuts an imposing figure at his home near Northampton. His protective boot is covering a tendon injury for which he is to undergo surgery

gered out for the game. Take the Lions defeat against Otago in Dunedin in 1993, which was preceded by two massive piss-ups on the Thursday and Friday evenings before the game. It's almost a piss-up-per-page story.

And yet his era was, in its way, ferociously hard, and punchy. In one game Bayfield, generally a pacifist, threw a right hand, which missed the target. Dooley, his lock partner whom he revered then, now and for ever, said: "Bayf lad, stick to what you are good at, and you aren't good at this." After aiming a punch at Ian Jones, the All Black, which struck Martin Johnson, his captain, Bayfield decided to forgo pugilism for good.

At the Parc des Princes, England played a succession of often violent French teams, with one referee to keep order. There was no television match official, only a few cameras, no citing officer, and even the touch judges had to stay mute. In the 1992 game, Olivier Roumat, the France lock, floored Dooley with an exceptional punch. "You know when it's been a good punch, the referee goes up to the [miscreant] and shakes his hand," Bayfield once said. Dooley recovered quickly, vowed vengeance. He shouted to the referee, Stephen Hilditch: "Do not send that f\*\*\*er off!"

"It must be hard now," he says.

# I loved my playing era, but I am hugely in awe of what the guys do now. They are off the scale'

"Then the punches flew, and the boots, and blood, shit and snot... which you cannot do now or you'll be spotted by a camera and be sent off, quite rightly. I loved my era, but I am hugely in awe of what the guys do now. They are off the scale."

His storytelling ability grew from growing up in a quiet household — John, his father, was hard-working and studious — and his imagination. He loved the discourse of the team rooms, the airport waiting area, the Harry Potter off-set hours. He says John Major, the former prime minster, is one of the best speakers he has heard.

The fundraising elements of his life can be amazing. "I did something recently for the Nordoff Robbins music therapy charity and George Michael's estate donated a piano to be auctioned. An auction is always nerve-racking and they were hoping to get £50,000 for it. It went for £200,000."

He was also booked to speak by the Singapore Cricket Club in 2002, but before the evening took place they lost 11 members in the Bali bombing. "There were tears everywhere, and a woman there came up to me and said: 'They haven't found my son yet but I'm sure they will.' And that was two weeks after the bomb."

For some reason, they do not sell Mars bars in Singapore. One guest at the dinner brought a Mars bar from the plane. "We worked out that we would try to auction it, and we sold it for HK\$1,500 [about £150]. I wrote an article about this and Mars got in contact and they said they would offer

# ME AND THE POLICE PUNCH-UP IN A CLUB

A police officer during the days of amateur rugby, the 6ft 10in Bayfield played for the Metropolitan Police team. He recalls ending up in a nightclub in Chester after one game: "It was an old building with quite low ceilings, and I was standing with a pint, minding my own business, when the next thing I knew, I felt this smack on the back of my head which sent me crashing to the floor. The next thing I hear is: 'Someone's hit Bayfs!'

"A fight broke out, causing bedlam for a couple of minutes. Eventually order was restored when a guy from the corner came over, shouting: 'Stop, I saw everything.'

"It turned out that I had not been struck by a flying fist but had been standing too close to the spinning disco light, which had knocked me to the ground when the DJ pushed his button to start the disco. 'Sorry everyone, it was just me...'"

up to £2,000 every time the bar was auctioned off. The Mars bar was put in a Perspex plinth in a case and a company will buy it, look after it and then take it to the next event. The last time I heard it had gone for the equivalent of nearly £1,700. For a Mars bar. It began on the most emotional and heartbreaking event but also in its way, the most uplifting."

He now presents BT Sports' rugby coverage, and lives on the boundaries of a golf club on the outskirts of Northampton. He still follows Bedford, that wonderful institution, and his first club. With Jane, his wife, he has Roseanna, Polly and Lucy and his stepchildren Ross, Alice and Clara. On holiday when Polly was young, she was found face down in a swimming pool, and the story of how they and medics successfully fought for Polly's life is only remotely bearable because of its happy ending.

At present his conscience is troubled by the plight of former players with dementia; he has no truck with the idea that rugby cannot change its essential characteristics to become safer. "The game is always changing. Remember that amazing Mickey Skinner tackle in Paris? It stood out massively, but you'll see ten of those in a match," he says. "The change in terminology from a tackle to a hit – that's significant." I agree with his view that the game needs fundamental changes, not just reactive piecemeal moves.

Bayfield is the kind of man that a well-run sport would have appointed as one of its commissioners years ago. He was and is a remarkable character, much adored, insightful and a devotee of the spoken word.

Self-deprecation, however, must always come to an end sometime.

I rang him on Friday to check one point. He appeared to be saying on the interview tape that he had never scored a try. I asked for clarification, had he never scored a try, ever? "I mean that I never scored for England," he remonstrated. "I wasn't that shit."

• A Very Tall Story by Martin Bayfield is published by Simon & Schuster

# **Springboks victorious** with plenty to spare

# **RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP**

ARGENTINA	20
SOUTH AFRICA	36

# Stephen Jones

South Africa revived their challenge for the 2022 Rugby Championship title with a bonus-point victory over Argentina in Buenos Aires in what was largely a plodding and mediocre game. The world champions had to show little in the way of consistency, let alone power or magic, and there must be doubts now that this team will get the trip all the way to the 2023 World Cup.

For example, the Pumas had way more back-line talent, and the Springbok scrum, with Trevor Nyakane on the tight-head struggling badly, spent the second half in reverse gear.

The match itself and the chances

The match itself and the chances of Argentina were ruined by a dire refereeing performance by James Doleman of New Zealand. He killed any momentum in light blue with a ghastly one-sided display in the first half especially which illustrated some of the worst aspects of officiality – he refereed by the current dogma in the game, not to the law, and he appeared to be following the example of so many others by penalising heavily the team they think will lose at the start of the game.

Some of the decisions – notably a penalty try awarded to South Africa, a barrage of penalties to South Africa in the ruck (at least half of which could have gone the other way) and a total lack of sympathy in his contacts with the Argentina captain, made it onesided as well as generally boring.

The touch judges weighed in

# **RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP**

	г	VV	D	L	г	А	гіз
N Zealand	5	3	0	2	155	114	14
S Africa	5	3	0	2	126	98	14
Australia	5	2	0	3	128	154	10
Argentina	5	2	0	3	122	165	9

with a will. A South Africa scrum collapse under the nose of one touch judge ended in a penalty in South Africa's favour; a beautiful long lineout throw by Argentina to the tail, probably the only straight throw of the match, was ruled crooked. The referee also awarded a drive-over try to Malcolm Marx when a gang of four South Africans, detached in front of Marx, illegally cleared the way for a try.

Before half-time, Jordan Hendrikse and Marx were credited with tries, and the early and harsh penalty try had already set the tone. Twice, Puma players were penalised for not clearing out of the tackle area while they were still engaged in making the tackle, and Damian Willemse, the clever South Africa fly half, added a conversion and a penalty by the break, against two penalties from Emiliano Boffelli.

South Africa slowed to a plod in the second half, with Marx virtually alone in keeping his true form. The Pumas came back in stirring fashion, they were awarded a penalty try after a neck roll by Kwagga Smith and Matias Moroni, a class act, sped through for a try and the stadium came to believe, with only two points in it at 22-20.

However, late tries by Damian de Allende and Marx himself stretched the Springboks away again. The bonus-point try came in the last act of the match, which was highly satisfactory for South Africa, though by no means erasing doubts about parts of their team.

Unsatisfactory was the word for much of the occasion. Dogmatic refereeing, endless chatting, long pauses between action. No doubt it pleased the referee assessors. Others were surely left less then delirious.

Star man Malcolm Marx (South Africa)
Scorers: Argentina: Tries Moroni, penalty Con
Carreras Pens Boffelli (2) South Africa: Tries
Hendrikse, Marx (2), De Allende, penalty Cons
Willemse, Steyn (2) Pen Willemse
Argentina JC Malia; E Boffelli, M Orlando, J de la
Fuente, L Cinti; S Carreras, G Bertranou; N Tetaz
Chaparro, J Montoya, E Bello, M Alemanno, T
Lavanini, JM Gonzalez, M Kremer, P Matera
Replacements A Creevy, T Gallo, J Sclavi, G Petti,
R Bruni, T Cubelli, B Urdapilleta, M Moroni
South Africa Le Roux; C Moodie, J Kriel, D de
Allende, M Mapimpi; D Willemse, J Hendrikse; S
Kitshoff, M Marz, F Malherbe, E Etzebeth, L de
Jaeger, S Kolisi, F Mostert, J Wiese Replacements
D Fourie, O Nche, T Nyakane, E Louw, K Smith, F
de Klerk, A Esterhuizen, F Steyn
Referee J Doleman (New Zealand)



Willemse, the Springboks fly half, attempts to break through the defence

# Sportswomen of the Year

ELIZABETH Ammon



t the age of 18, Alice Capsey has the cricketing world at her feet. A whirlwind journey over the past two years has taken her from unpaid county player to an international superstar in the making. No wonder, then, that a month after receiving them, she does not even feel the need to check her A-level results.

"I have finished school but I haven't actually looked at my results," the England all-rounder says. "I'm sure when the time comes I'll open them and see what I got, but at the moment I don't really see the need to. I'm fully focused on cricket."

It is the professionalisation of domestic women's cricket that has allowed the rapid rise of Capsey. Her talent was always apparent but had there not been the opportunities through the regional women's teams and the Hundred, she would have had to think of another career path and, perhaps, a continuation of her education. A salary and the chance to train and play full-time means that cricket, and only cricket, is her focus. Because of this, she has flourished beyond all expectations in a short space of time.

Capsey's performances for the champions, Oval Invincibles, in the inaugural edition of the Hundred last year pushed her towards international honours. Her England debut came in a T20 international against South Africa in July this year and she looked immediately at home. After ten games, she has 234 runs at an average of 33.42 and a healthy strike rate of 127.86. She also gives the captain another bowling option with her more-than-handy off breaks.

"It's been incredible," Capsey says.
"After the first whirlwind year of success, you don't really expect it to go any better, but then this year to say I made my England debut and have

been part of a Commonwealth Games, it is pretty surreal. The opportunities and backing I have been given have been incredible and I am so fortunate for it.

"At the moment, I am just really enjoying my cricket and hopefully that shows in how I am going about things on the pitch."

For someone so young, there is an incredible level of confidence and calmness in her ability, and that allows for free-flowing and expansive batting. It is remarkable that Capsey talks about taking on more responsibility and playing a senior role in the side despite her inexperience. The absence of three senior players, in Katherine Brunt, Nat Sciver and Heather Knight, for the T20 series against India has meant that Capsey felt she needed to step up to the plate.

Alice Capsey's rise has been so rapid she hasn't even checked her A-level results

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In the series-deciding match on Thursday, England's chase stuttered after losing three quick wickets, but with the match and the series at stake, Capsey calmly steered them home with an unbeaten 38 from 24 balls.

Having secured her place in the T20 side, she has now been named in England's ODI squad for the three-match series against India that begins today at Hove, and which culminates on Saturday with a showpiece match at Lord's.

'The more I taste the big matches, the big-pressure situations, the more I want it. It makes me play better' "To get a call-up for the one-day team is brilliant and depending on what my role is in that team, that will bring new challenges," she says. "I will have to adapt my game but I am so excited about that opportunity and to see how I can end the summer."

While many of her 18-year-old peers will shortly be packing their bags and heading off to university, Capsey will be packing hers for a winter abroad. She has just been signed by the Melbourne Stars for the Women's Big Bash League and that will be bookended by England's tour to the West Indies in December and then the T20 World Cup in South Africa in February.

While her talent and ability are clear to see, it is Capsey's ambition and fierce competitiveness that make her stand out and which she says



# 'I want my team to play like Wenger's Arsenal'

# WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE

# Molly Hudson

Jonas Eidevall did not know it at the time, but as a young manager learning his trade at FC Rosengard in his native Sweden, he was undertaking the perfect preparation for his present role as Arsenal women's head coach.

"Rosengard is ruthless," Eidevall says, with a wry smile. "You win and you stay; you don't win you're out. The media is ruthless when they write about Rosengard. In Malmo there is a saying: 'You win gold, you get silver for free'. That's the mentality.

"It's a good school in order to be prepared to work on a bigger stage because it gives you a little bit of a thicker skin. You can cancel out the noise. When you're at a big club, like Arsenal, that's needed."

Eidevall is only 39 but arrived at Arsenal last year with a clear identity. "There's only one ball, and it's our ball," he explained, when asked to describe his football philosophy. He has rejuvenated a team who had been leapfrogged by Chelsea and Manchester City and narrowly missed out on silverware in his first season, finishing one point behind Chelsea in the WSL and losing to their London rivals in the delayed 2020-21 FA Cup final.

His philosophy was influenced by a childhood watching Arsène Wenger's Arsenal dominate teams, and Eidevall recently met the man who continues to impact his career.

"I was lucky enough to meet
Arsène very briefly last Monday
night when David Dein [the former
Arsenal vice-chairman] had his
book release," he says. "I told
Arsène that what stuck with me was
the way his team passed the ball.
For me that was different, the care
that they passed the ball with – I

had never seen it before.

"It's very special to meet someone like Arsène who has inspired me so much through just seeing the work that he has been doing with teams. It's very nice for me just to say hello, introduce myself and express in words to him what it has meant to me, because I think sometimes we don't understand the actions that we do, how much they can impact others."



Eidevall was inspired by Wenger

Next Saturday, Eidevall's side take on Tottenham Hotspur in a north London derby at Emirates Stadium, for which more than 45,000 tickets have been sold, on track to comfortably break the WSL attendance record which their rivals hold from the same fixture in 2019 of 38,262.

Arsenal women's matches are usually held at Boreham Wood's Meadow Park, which was sold out on Friday as 3,238 fans watched them defeat Brighton & Hove Albion 4-0 in their WSL opener.

"It's history," Eidevall says of the Spurs game. "We will try to do our very best because we want to live that experience, not only one time but weekend by weekend. We have to go out there and play a great game, the supporters have to be there to create a really good atmosphere and the club has to work to create a really nice event for everyone. If we do that, then I think people will return."

Eidevall's passionate celebrations have become synonymous with Arsenal victories. He admits that he takes defeat badly – so just as well they only lost once in the league last season.

"The world stops when you lose or you draw," he says. "It's the worst feeling. That's why success is so sweet. But the price you have to pay is that you will really suffer if you fail as well.

"Without that, success won't be as sweet, so you have to invest your emotions in the game."

He believes that a summer of stability for the club has put them

# NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2022 SPORTSWOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

THE SUNDAY TIMES

SPORTSWOMEN

OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2022

Changemaker award

Celebrating those who have

inspired others and used

their platforms to create

This Girl Can Grassroots

Sportswoman of the Year

The Helen Rollason Award

for Inspiration Recognising

inspirational endeavour in

honour of the late sports

presenter Helen Rollason

You have until September 28

to nominate your favourite

sportswomen of 2022. For

more information, go to: sportswomenoftheyear.co.

For individuals who have

actively engaged with people in their community

through sport

meaningful change

Today we launch the 2022 Sunday Times Sportswomen of the Year awards, in association with Citi, the winners of which will be announced in November.

Sunday Times readers have the chance to submit nominations, with the winners of most of the awards determined by a judging panel which includes Gabby Logan and Jess Ennis-Hill. This year's categories are:

The Sunday Times Sportswoman of the Year The ultimate accolade for your favourite sportswoman of this year

Team of the Year Celebrating the achievements of Britain's successful collective efforts

The Citi Disability Sportswoman of the Year The outstanding performer in a disability sport

Young Sportswoman of the Year Nominees must have been 21 or younger on January 1

After impressing in the recent T20 series Capsey has been added to England's ODI squad to face India

# **ON TV TODAY**

England v India First women's ODI, 11am, Sky Sports Cricket comes from having four older siblings – two brothers and two sisters.

"The more I taste the big matches, the big-pressure situations, the more I want it," she says. "I feel like I play better in those situations, the adrenaline gets me, and I really thrive off the desire to win and playing in front of big crowds. I am hugely competitive.

"I've grown up with older siblings so even from playing football, cricket or tennis in the garden, there was always a competition. That has helped with my cricketing career and my hunger to be successful."

# LE TISSIER DOUBLE SETS UP UNITED FOR EASY WIN

Maya Le Tissier scored twice, the first only four minutes into her debut, as Manchester United beat Reading 4-0 in the Women's Super League in front of 7,217 fans at Leigh Sports Village, a record for the venue. Katie Zelem struck the second from the penalty spot after Alessia Russo was judged to have been fouled by the visiting keeper Grace Moloney. Le Tissier and Russo completed the scoring before half-time.

in a better position than ever to challenge for a trophy, but he has also settled down away from the pitch. Eidevall's wife and twin sons have adapted to life in England; he now even has wi-fi, he laughs, having claimed last season that his lack of internet connection meant he did not see what was written about him. His sons are two years old and Eidevall tells a story that suggests he may already have helped inspire a new generation of Arsenal fans.

"One of them yesterday, when I was playing with them, was screaming and I was asking my wife, 'What's he screaming?' She said, 'You don't hear it? It's the club you work for. Arsenal. Arsenal.'
"That's the chant they have

"That's the chant they have picked up from the games that they have been to."

Tickets for Arsenal v Tottenham at Emirates Stadium on Saturday are available at www.eticketing.co.uk

# ON TV

**Arsenal v Tottenham** Saturday, 1.30pm. BBC 1 and iPlayer

# Stevens bows out on high but Evison steals the show

# ROYAL LONDON ONE-DAY CUP FINAL

# **Elizabeth Ammon**

Kent ended their 44-year-long A-List trophy drought with a 21-run victory against Lancashire in a gripping Royal London One-Day Cup final at Trent Bridge. If this is to be the end of Darren Stevens's 25-year professional career, bowing out with another winners' medal to add to his collection is a decent way to sign off.

Since beating Derbyshire in the Benson & Hedges Cup in 1978, Kent have been runners-up on eight occasions, and four of those matches have involved Stevens.

There may be life in the old dog yet. His time with Kent is over but he wants to play on and believes that, even at 46, he still has plenty to offer. He has been in conversation with a couple of other counties.

But this final was more of a tale of the young man brought into replace Stevens than of the veteran himself.

Joey Evison, the all-rounder recently signed from Nottinghamshire, was instrumental in Kent's victory, striking an assured and skilful innings of 97 before the 20-year-old bowled a very good spell of 6.4 overs, in which he took the key wicket of the experienced Dane Vilas and then completed his successful day by taking the final wicket.

Evison was playing on what was until recently his home pitch at Trent Bridge, but after struggling to get first-team opportunities he joined Kent on loan earlier in the season, a deal which will be made permanent from next summer. Kent see him very much as their future and Stevens, now, their past.

"It has been such a great day,"
Evison said. "I can't really describe it,
the boys have come such a long way
over this tournament. It's great to
come back home to Trent Bridge but
I'm really looking forward to the next
stage of my career with Kent."

After the loss of Ben Compton in the first over, a breezy partnership of 79 between Ollie Robinson and Evison got things back on track. Robinson has been Kent's best performer with the bat throughout the tournament, with 594 runs and an average of 59.33, and he looked busy and assured at the crease. His innings of 43 from 48 was ended thanks to a fine catch from George Lavelle behind the stumps off Liam Hurt.

Having reached 111 for two at the halfway stage, Kent failed to kick on as explosively as they should have. With wickets in hand, a score of about 320 looked well within their reach but Lancashire bowled smartly, taking the pace off the ball.

After the dismissal of Joe Denly, who had struck nine boundaries in his captain's knock of 78, Stevens came to the crease in the 41st over. It was not his most flowing innings and at times he struggled to time the ball – and he was also culpable for the run out of Grant Stewart – but he



Evison hits a six on his way to scoring an assured 97 to help Kent to victory

# **SCOREBOARD**

Runs (balls)
0 (4)
97 (111)
43 (48)
78 (69)
38 (32)
33 (31)
1 (2)
4 (4)
12
306

Fall 1-0, 2-79, 3-212, 4-245, 5-284, 6-287 Did not bat H Podmore, H Qadri, N Gilchrist Bowling Bailey 10-0-46-2; Williams 10-0-62-0; Lamb 10-0-57-1; Hurt 10-1-64-2; Wells 8-0-53-0; Croft 2-0-21-0

Lancashire Innings	Runs (balls)
L Wells c & b Stewart	16 (14)
*K Jennings c Blake b Hamidullah	n 72 (62)
J Bohannon c Stewart b Podmore	5 (21)
S Croft c Blake b Gilchrist	72 (83)
D Vilas b Evison	11 (16)
R Jones Ibw b Stewart	29 (46)
G Lavelle c Evison b Gilchrist	6 (8)
D Lamb c Gilchrist	20 (14)
T Bailey b Gilchrist	16 (11)
L Hurt b Evison	12 (11)
W Williams not out	8 (7)
Extras (lb 9, nb 2, w 2, pen 5)	18
Total: (48.4 overs)	285

Fall 1-47, 2, 71, 3-125, 4-153, 6-220, 7, 248, 8-249, 9-267

Bowling Stewart 7-0-42-3; Gilchrist 10-0-65-3; Stevens 8-0-45-0; Podmore 5-0-21-1; Hamidullah Qadri 9-0-43-1; Evison 6.4-0-34-2; Denly 3-0-21-0

Umpires P Pollard and R Warren

finished not out on 33 off 31 balls and ended the tournament with an average of 125.

With a very chaseable target of 307, Lancashire came firing out of the blocks with the clear plan of exploiting the pace of the opening bowlers, knowing it would get tougher as the spinners were introduced later in the innings.

Their chase looked on course as the captain Keaton Jennings, who has

had a stellar summer across all formats, played an array of classical but flowing shots, leading his side to 124 for two at the end of the 21st over. The former England opener was dismissed for 71 when Hamidullah Qadri got one to stick in the pitch, causing Jennings to go hard at the ball and spoon easily to gully.

There was a bizarre incident in that over when Lancashire were awarded five penalty runs after Harry Finch put on the wicketkeeper's discarded glove to field the ball.

After the dismissal of Jennings,

After the dismissal of Jennings, Steven Croft picked up the mantle, scoring 72 from 83 in a helpful 70-run fifth-wicket partnership with Rob Jones, but he was caught behind off the bowling of Nathan Gilchrist with 95 needed from 11.2 overs. Kent sensed they could wrestle back the victory. Evison was involved again, taking an athletic catch running in from the deep square leg boundary. Grant Stewart struck twice in the 44th over, removing Danny Lamb and Rob Jones, leaving Lancashire 249 for eight and needing another 58 from six overs.

Lancashire's ninth wicket fell in the 47th, when Tom Bailey was out for 16 and the victory was wrapped up when Evison nailed a pinpoint yorker to bowl Hurt.

Gone are the days of the one-day cup final being the marquee event of the season. There were only just over 9,000 in attendance at Trent Bridge yesterday. Overtaken by the T20 Finals Day and now the Hundred, the one-day cup is the poor relation of the domestic competitions.

Nonetheless, the tournament remains an important part of the cricketing landscape. The debate now, which will form part of Sir Andrew Strauss's high-performance review, is whether it should remain in this format or move to being a straight knockout – akin to the old Natwest Trophy – and at what point in the season it should be played.

Those debates can wait. Yesterday at Trent Bridge was about saying farewell to a legend, and the emergence of the next generation.
The circle of cricket goes on.

# **Tennis**

# Ed Smith

Federer is one of few greats who married style with steel – Watching him play moved me to tears

entleman, professional, good winner, good loser, traditionalist, innovator, civilised, warrior. Roger Federer made false dichotomies melt away. Federer was also remarkable for keeping his talent in proportion – in balance with the rest of his life, bounded by the limitations of sport, informed by awareness of luck and circumstance. The combination of mystery and sanity – all part of the Federer magic.

Sporting talent so great that it was hard to comprehend? No point denying it (and he never did deny it). But talent – let's not be scared of the right term, genius – was always interwoven with normal life when normality was the right mode. Perhaps he was more curious about the wider world than he was about his own talent, to the benefit of both.

Federer was the greatest athlete I've watched while also being among the least likely to pretend he was more than he was. You sense he has cared at least as much about being a good man as being a great player.

So Federer lived at the extremes, but also in the round. That's the rarest of doubles, a total winner and yet also a grounded human being – two dimensions bound together, but with space for each of them. He has stepped through life with the same grace he brought to the court.

There's no escaping style in any total assessment. As a competitor, elegance and the projection of superior naturalness became part of the Federer armoury. Opponents had to slave so hard, while Federer looked to be having childlike fun. When he watched their matches over again, Rafael Nadal reflected that he was surprised he won so many.

Federer's style was bound up with our experience too. Extreme style in sport is so often flawed and unreliable – which Federer wasn't. He was a case apart because he united things normally found apart. He was a beautiful player but also a relentless one: David Gower and Sachin Tendulkar combined. He absorbed style into efficiency, making him the definitive modern athlete. Remember the old debate about gentlemanly elegance versus professional grit and preparation? How about the fad that all champions have a nasty streak? Federer made

these arguments look passé, absurd even. He folded the differing threads of modern sport into his own story, always apparently in alliance with tradition while creating an overall effect that was quite new.

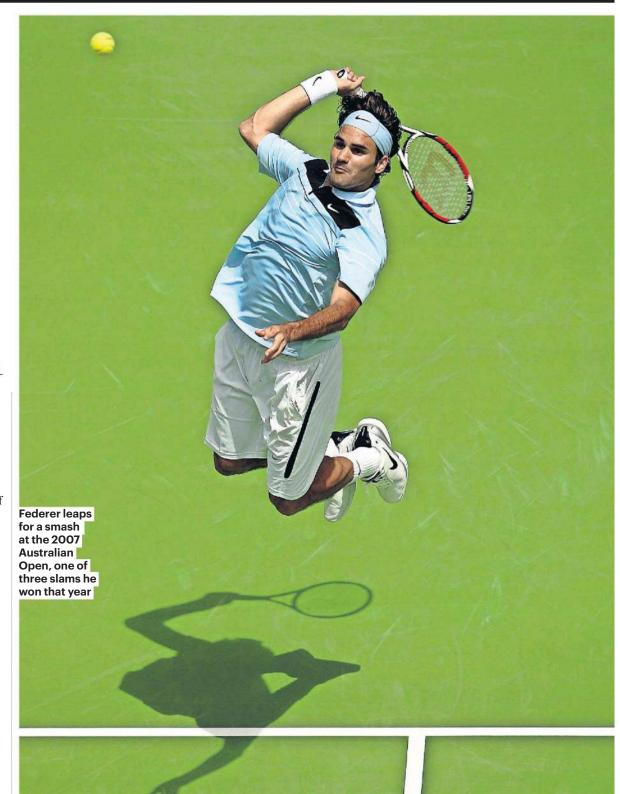
And then, if anyone needed a reminder that sport is never altogether benign, there were hints of brutal competitiveness underneath – the wild and uncontrolled leap into the air after an epic rally, the primal roar after an impossible winner. A sophisticate, certainly; but not only a sophisticate.

To which we can add the words: rival and ally. This is close to the heart of things. If Federer's tendency was towards benign dictatorship – barely breaking sweat, a friendly hug at the net – history had other plans for him. That took the form of Nadal, Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray, whose multifaceted rivalries made men's tennis the envy of every sport.

Some athletes like being taken to the limit; they walk on court wanting to be pushed. With Federer, in contrast, you felt that wasn't his initial instinct. First of all, let's play – skill versus skill, tennis player versus tennis player. Federer always looked very happy in this civilised territory,

# SMITH DEFENDS GB'S DAVIS CUP SELECTION

After last week's Davis Cup defeats by the United States and the Netherlands on the doubles rubber, the Great Britain captain, Leon Smith, has defended his team selection. Smith had Cameron Norrie, Dan Evans and Andy Murray, all ranked in the top 50 for singles, and Joe Salisbury and Neal Skupski, the top and third-ranked doubles players, to call on. In both ties, Norrie and Evans played the singles, and Murray partnered Salisbury in the doubles. "Is it that controversial to put your two highest-ranked singles players out there? No, Smith said. "Is it controversial to put the No1 doubles player in the world out there? No. Is it controversial to put Andy Murray out there on the court here in Glasgow? I don't think so."



winning without breaking stride. But when pushed into a more elemental contest – where Nadal, first of all, regularly forced him – we quickly learnt that there was more to Federer as a pure competitor than anyone could have known, including than he knew himself.

That story surfaced strongly in the Wimbledon final of 2008, against Nadal. Backed into a corner by a younger rival, Federer was suddenly in a visceral fight. Instead of being dragged downwards, their collective response was a kind of openness — towards their own talents, to each other, to the occasion.

They played with their whole personalities, and the implied vulnerability elevated them both. That became the story, and the wonder, of the next decade.

That's why it was not Federer's initial dominance (from about 2006 onward) that cemented his greatness, but his response to the challenge of staying at the top against brilliant opponents. Excepting perhaps Muhammad Ali, it's hard to think of

# 'You sense he has cared at least as much about being a good man as being a great player'

another athlete who so completely confounded the idea that style lacked steel.

Arguments about "the greatest" can never be completely decided by graphs and calculators. Superficially, sport is totally quantifiable; on further reflection, much less so.

Athletes have to win points to stay in the game, but they must inspire feelings to survive in our memories. And while analogies with the arts can be strained and flawed, here the sport-art parallel does hold. Time,

not numbers, is the most reliable

I found myself popping up to watch Federer wherever I could; in Paris and Melbourne as well as London. I discovered something different every time. Looking back, I can see that those matches expanded my understanding of what human beings can do.

Of course, you didn't have to be there to get there. One of his later grand-slam wins, at the Australian Open in 2017, was among the most interesting. A break down in the fifth set against Nadal, Federer drilled down one more time and turned up the risks. Stand taller, strike cleaner. With each backhand winner, power and control shifted. Then nearer 40 than 30, he was still discovering different facets of confidence and self-belief, going somewhere new.

I watched it with my father and my son, moved to tears. Lucky, lucky us.

● Ed Smith's Making Decisions −
Putting the Human Back in the Machine is out now, published by William Collins

# Boxing

TOM Kershaw



he first light of morning floods in and washes away the dreams of the night before. Chris Eubank Jr is not sure where he was sitting or even what he was saying; he just knows that his brother, Sebastian, was there. "And then you wake up and just think: 'Jesus, he's gone,' "he says, and his voice drops and he stares absently into the distance. "We were just spending time together, it wasn't anything spectacular, but then you realise, I'm never going to have that again in this lifetime."

It has been more than a year since Sebastian died suddenly of a heart attack aged 29 last July, but the grief is still raw, returning in dreams and detailed in the large portrait that hangs on the wall of the Brighton & Hove Boxing Gym, where we now sit. "I cried for two days straight [after he died]," Eubank Jr, 33, says. "I hadn't cried for 20 years before that. I'd suppressed my emotions for so long to be able to do what I do in the ring.

"I wasn't able to cry or get upset when horrible things happened. It took my brother passing away for me to reach that threshold."

The widespread perception of Eubank Jr is that he can be an arrogant and abrasive character; traits inherited from his father – a former middleweight and super-middleweight world champion – but exaggerated by the heavy burden of his surname, and realised in the unapologetic vicious streak that has fuelled a decade-long professional career. He has won 32 of 34 fights, with the two defeats, against the former world champions Billy Joe Saunders and George Groves, doing little to dampen his sense of conviction. "I wasn't going to give anyone that satisfaction," Eubank Jr says. "To take me down a peg, you'd have to kill me."

When Eubank faces Conor Benn in London on October 8, they will add a new chapter to the legendary rivalry their fathers shared across two brutal fights in the early Nineties. We meet less than 24 hours after Eubank Jr's father, Chris Sr, has labelled the mutually agreed catchweight of 157lb as "suicide" and pleaded publicly for the fight to be called off. "I've already lost one son," he said in reference to Sebastian. "I won't lose another."

Eubank Jr was blindsided by the remarks but, while he concedes "it will be very tough and painful" to shed three extra pounds from his lean frame, he is adamant it will not be detrimental to his health. "At the end of the day, the fight's still going to happen," he says, before admitting the language used by his father "isn't nice".

Eubank Jr is well versed in blocking out such distractions but becomes disarmingly honest as he explains how the shock of grief has led him to reckon with his feelings and his relationship with his father.

"I haven't really talked about this with my family," he says, after a long pause. "I haven't talked about my feelings for 20 years, so to have this very intimate conversation with a stranger instead of with them, it's f\*\*\*ing crazy when I think about it."

That disconcerting moment of realisation comes after Eubank has



finished attempting to describe the feelings he has for his nephew, which are utterly and intensely "alien". Raheem was born a month before Sebastian died and Eubank Jr receives videos from his mother, Salma, every day. "It does make it easier, knowing

"It does make it easier, knowing that we have a new Sebastian that we can bring up and love and be around and teach," he says. "If he was just gone and there was nothing to continue him on, that would have made this whole process so much more difficult. But holding him, hugging him, kissing him, it makes it

Thaven't talked about my feelings for 20 years, so to have this intimate conversation with a stranger is crazy'

feel like Seb is still here." Eubank stops again and wraps his fingers back and forth across his knuckles agitatedly, waiting and wincing as the reality of what he's saying sinks in.

"We're very close as a family, but we never sat down and talked about our feelings," he says. "It would be too hard, too emotional to have this kind of conversation with my father or mother. I don't want to talk to them like I'm talking to you and have to see them start crying, which is probably what would happen. I'm just telling you my story and it's therapeutic and

a good thing because my family in turn will read this and hear it, so they'll know how much love is still there and that will comfort them. If they're going to cry about it, they can do it in their privacy without me having to watch that and get upset.

"I wouldn't say I was close with my old man growing up. He was too strict. I was too afraid of him, so you can't be close with someone like that. He set the rules and I had to abide by them and if I messed up. I got the belt."

and, if I messed up, I got the belt."
Eubank Jr is grateful rather than resentful for that. "Without someone to caution me at home, I'd be in a jail cell somewhere," he says of his teenage years in Brighton, as he wrestled with the desire to prove that he was not "just some private school kid with a second name".

"I was in a gang, I was on the streets fighting constantly," he says. "I never stole anything, I never dealt drugs, but I was with people that did that. That was the environment I was putting myself into, that danger attracted me, and I don't know why. It was stupid and foolish, but that's what you are as a kid. Then I found boxing and I channelled all that energy into the sport and it sayed my life."

the sport and it saved my life."

When Eubank turned professional in 2011, his father was a domineering presence at his early fights. "The trolling, the hating, it was constant from day one," he says. "People said that I was a gimmick and just using my old man's name to get some traction. It pissed me off and made me not want to talk to anybody or smile in pictures with fans. My father being there and talking on my behalf relieved a lot of



Eubank Sr is flanked by Sebastian, left, and Chris Jr. Above, Chris Jr with the portrait of his late brother at the Brighton gym where he is preparing for the Benn fight

the pressure." Eventually, though, he says, "it got to a point where it was like, 'I don't want you to come to the press conferences and do your poems and give my opponents ammunition.' I earned the right to speak for myself and be my own man. I didn't need him controlling everything."

There was a gradual series of backwards steps leading up to the defeat by Groves in 2018, which culminated in him telling his father that he was no longer needed in his corner during his fights. As events this week have proved, though, his shadow is not easily lifted.

On occasions it has prompted accusations that he is attempting to live vicariously through his son. "I can see that," Eubank Jr says. "But it's strange; usually, the parents who live through their children, it's because they haven't achieved what they wanted, whereas he achieved everything in boxing. That just shows you how much he's in love with the sport.

"But since I stepped into the gym for the first time, whenever I've been with my father, he's never not spoken to me about boxing. It's just crazy to think. It shows he cannot separate this life I'm in and this industry I'm in from being my father."

On his way out of the gym, Eubank Jr stops and glances at the oil painting of his brother. At the forefront of his mind, he is focused on settling a feud between families that has endured longer than he's been alive. In the background, though, he is still processing what it means to love and to lose, what to remember and what the light blinds and forces us to let go.

"It's not really something you want to think about too much before a fight because you want to have a pure mind, a focused mind," he says. "But, at the same time, I know my brother believed in me and wanted me to achieve everything I wanted.

"We even spoke about this fight a fight few times, just imagining how crazy it would be. I put the painting up so he's been watching over me this whole training camp, it gives me inspiration and energy."

# Racing

# **Fitzpatrick** forges narrow lead with McIlroy in pursuit

# **GOLF**

### Tom Kershaw

If the Italian Open was supposed to provide a gentle preview to next year's Ryder Cup, the likes of Rory McIlroy and Matt Fitzpatrick got more than they bargained for as blustering winds made for a menacing test.

McIlrov had taken a slender advantage into yesterday's third round but found the quirks of Marco Simone Golf Club tricky to navigate as a round of 71 left him one shot adrift of Fitzpatrick, who fared only slightly better to set the lead at ten under par.

"We had the wind switch and the golf course just completely changed," Fitzpatrick said. "I just felt like if I could hang on and just avoid bogeys, I would put myself in good position."

Aaron Rai, the 27-year-old from Wolverhampton, will complete the final group after a flawless round of 65 that defied the deep rough and difficult conditions. "It was tough out there. It was blowing all day," said Rai, who was able to take refuge in the clubhouse and watch as the wind knocked the later starters off their stride.

It will inevitably be viewed as a two-horse race, but the final round is well poised, with eight players within four shots of the lead, including the 2017 champion Tyrrell Hatton and the Ryder Cup hopefuls Robert MacIntyre and Victor Perez. The latter, who narrowly missed out on qualification for Whistling Straits last year, seized the early momentum as McIlroy and Fitzpatrick became mired in a streak of pars.



McIlroy lies one shot off the lead

Perez's chaotic back nine, however, epitomised the course's volatility as even the expertise of Fanny Sunesson, Sir Nick Faldo's former caddie, who is moonlighting on the bag this week, could not decipher the wind and a wild drive at

the 14th invited disaster and a double-bogey. The Frenchman redeemed himself with a 77ft eagle putt at the 16th but then refused to listen to wisdom and topped a driver off the deck at the last to slip back to eight under par.

McIlroy's problems were rooted in the greens rather than the weather and a three-putt bogey at the 12th felt like a summation of his struggles. A late rally ensured he remains within touching distance of Fitzpatrick, though, whose round had taken on much the same rhythm before his class and control shone through with three birdies on the back-nine, as those around him faltered. It may not go down as a day to remember in terms of scoring, but Europe's Ryder Cup certainties and prospects alike will have gleaned valuable lessons.

# TODAY'S RACECARDS

### **Hamilton Park**

ing: soft-good to soft in places Rob Wright's tips: 1.30 Queenie Rooney 2.00 Fox Hill (nb) 2.30 Gifted Ruler 3.00 Caleta Sunrise 3.30 Zig Zag Zyggy 4.00 Haven Lady 4.30 A La Francaise (nap)

# 1.30 Haven Lady 4.30 A La Francaise (nap) USAVE BUSINESS ENERGY CONSULTANCY EBF NOVICE STAKES (GBB RACE)

1	(6)	36 COLNAGO 18 (BF) K R Burke 9-7	C Lee
2	(3)	CONCERT BOY D O'Meara 9-7	D Tudhope
3	(2)	50 ERAZMUS 69 D & N Barron 9-7	K Stott
4	(5)	34 INSTALLATION 37 (V,BF) R Fahey 9-7	Oisin Ori
5	(1)	O SMOOTH RED 3 G Tuer 9-7	Stammers (3)
6	(4)	32 QUEENIE ROONEY 18 (BF) K Dalgleish 9-2	C Rodriguez
		g: 6-4 Installation, 5-2 Colnago, 3-1 Queenie Rooney	,

# 2.00 USAVE BUSINESS ENERGY SPECIALIST FILLIES HANDICAP

£6,696: 6F (11)	
1 (2)620001 SELBY'S PRIDE 18 (CD) T Coyle 3-9-10	P Mathers
2 (5)5-0032 LITTLE MISS DYNAMO 18 (T,D) H Palmer 3-9-	6 C Lee
3 (3)250254 FOX HILL 5 (B,D) E Alston 6-9-6	J Hart
4 (6)-10000 PEARL OF QATAR 15 (H,CD) T Davidson 6-9-4	P Dennis
5 (8)20-256 GUEST LIST 72 K Scott 3-9-4	K Stott
6 (11) 5-221 ROSHAMBO 46 (E,D) J Camacho 3-9-1	B Robinson
7 (9)231332 MISS BELLA BRAND 16 (D) Mrs I G-Leveque 4-9-1S	Osborne (3)
8 (4)-30354 KENTUCKY ROSE 18 (D) K Ryan 3-8-11	T Eaves
9 (1)255255 IRIS DANCER 18 (B,BF,CD) T Davidson 4-8-9	R Scott
10(7)330000 ROSE BANDIT 18 (P,C,D) I Jardine 5-8-7	A Mullen
11 (10)006560 SOLLER BAY 12 (B,D) T Easterby 4-8-7	D Fentimar
Betting: 4-1 Roshambo, 9-2 Selby's Pride, 6-1 Little Miss Dyna 7-1 Fox Hill, 8-1 Guest List, Miss Bella Brand, Kentucky Rose, 10	

# **7 30** BIG DREW HUNTER MEMORIAL SELLING STAKES

_	UU £3	,643: IM IF (5)	
1	(1) 30-040	GIFTED RULER 49 (P) H Palmer 9-2	C Lo
2	(3)60-500	GORDONSTOUN 56 (P) Liam Bailey 9-2	D Tudho
3	(2)515505	GRIFTER 21 (P) R Fahey 9-2	Oisin C
4	(4)064030	ZURAIG 24 (P,T) I Jardine 9-2	A Mull
5	(5) 31-005	BARNEYS GIFT J20 P Kirby 8-11	B Garrit
В	ettina: 11-10	Gifted Ruler, 4-1 Grifter, 5-1 Barneys Gift,	11-2 others

# 3.00 GARTCRAIG INN ALWAYS A WARM WELCOME HANDICAP $\pounds 4,158: 6F\ (10)$

1	(5)041506	MATTY TOO 19 (P,CD) T Easterby 9-9	D Alla
2	(4)-60204	CLARETS GLORY 32 (B,E,H,D) M Dods 9-9	P Denn
3	(2) 244-01	GENTLE ELLEN 45 (D) D & N Barron 9-8	K Sto
4	(8)136546	RAYDOUN 37 (D) R Fell 9-7	J Peate (5
5	(10)512256	BAILEYS LIBERTY 19 (P) C & M Johnston 9-5	C Beasle
6	(6)-40262	CALETA SUNRISE 12 (H,BF) H Palmer 9-5	C Le
7	(9)-05420	GOLDEN RAINBOW 19 (V) G Harker 9-4	B McHug
8	(1) 464040	MISS CALCULATION 13 (D) J J Quinn 9-1	J Ha
9	(7) 60440	BONITO CAVALO 3 J Goldie 8-8	C Hardi
10	(3)634350	THE GAY BLADE 19 (P) I Jardine 8-4	A Mulle
		Gentle Ellen, 9-2 Caleta Sunrise, 5-1 Clarets Glor , 8-1 Baileys Liberty, 10-1 Raydoun, 12-1 others	/,

### 3.30 SODEXO LIVE! AT HAMILTON PARK HANDICAP (10)-03103 BASHOLO 13 (D) Mrs Stella Barclay 3-9-12

2	(9)-50463	ZIG ZAG ZYGGY 18 (B,CD) J Goldie 7-9	-11 C Hardie
3	(13) 144221	SHESADABBER 10 (CD) M Mullineaux 6	6-9-10 P Dennis
4	(8)205430	TANASOQ 3 (D) J Goldie 9-9-9	Shannon Watts (7)
5	(11)006121	BIRDIE BOWERS 21 (D) D Thompson 5-	9-8 D Allar
6	(4) 215145	RED ALLURE 23 (V,CD) R Menzies 7-9-	7 P Mathers
7	(5)334662	ERUPTION 12 (D) T Easterby 3-9-7	S B Kirrane (3)
8	(1) 06050U	KRAKEN POWER 3 (C) J Goldie 4-9-6	P Mulrennar
9	(3)0-0200	SUNSET GLOW 55 G Tuer 4-9-5	O Stammers (3)
10	(12)00-003	CAPTAIN CORCORAN 47 (H,BF,D) E AI	ston 5-9-3 K Stott
11	(2)530010	BURTONLODGE BEAUTY 3 (P,CD) Miss	s L Perratt 3-9-3
			Mark Winn (7)
10	(6)000000	NODSASGOODASAWINK 3 (P) Miss L	Perratt 4-9-0
12	(6)0000000		JP Sullivar
13	(7)033050	STROXX 35 (B) Liam Bailey 5-8-12	J Hart
		Shesadabber, 9-2 Birdie Bowers, 7-1 Bash Red Allure, 12-1 others	olo, 8-1 Eruption,

# ------

4	<b>i.UU</b> H/	DDEXO LIVE! PARTY NIGHTS AT HAMI Andicap 1,618: 1M 4F (10)	LTON PARK
1	(7) 321122	<b>CLAN JOCK</b> 18 (BF,C) J Goldie 5-9-11	C Hardie
2	(8)403050	SIMPLE STAR J36 (T) I Jardine 4-9-11	D Allan
3	(9)363241	HAVEN LADY 16 (B,C,D) J J Quinn 4-9	-8 J Hart
4	(5)-53535	CUBAN CIGAR 32 (P) L Russell 4-9-6	Oisin Orr
-	(10) -06214	RALPHY BOY TWO 23 (H,BF,CD) Ewa	n Whillans 5-9-5
э	(10)-06214		R Scott
	(6)424300	LUCKY DRAW 24 (D) E De Giles 5-9-2	
0	(0)424300		Laura Coughlan (5)
7	(1)000-00	PROTON 50 T Davidson 6-9-2	P Dennis

8 (3)061663 LOCHNAVER 23 (H.C) J Goldie 4-8-13

# **9** (2)0-5055 **MILLIE THE MINX** J22 (B,CD) D Sayer 8-8-10 JP Sullivan Dic(4)05440 STARLYTE 19 (P) Miss L Perratt 5-8-9 Mis Betting: 9-4 Clan Jock, 7-2 Haven Lady, 5-1 Ralphy Boy Two, 7-1 Simple Star, 8-1 Lochnaver, 12-1 Cuban Cigar, 14-1 others

# 4.30 SODEXO LIVE! CONFERENCES & EVENTS HAMILTON PARK HANDICAP

		£4	I,158: 1M 3F (11)	
1	(5)	0-51	KANZINO 19 K R Burke 9-9	C Lee
2	(10)5	03463	SUPER STARS 13 C & M Johnston 9-6	J Hart
3	(1)-	04643	A LA FRANCAISE 10 J Goldie 9-4	P Mulrennan
4	(2)-	55203	SYLVIA BEACH 31 D O'Meara 9-4	D Tudhope
5	(11)0	30-00	LECHRO 108 J Candlish 9-3	C Beasley
6	(8)	055	ZEPHLYN 50 Ewan Whillans 9-2	B McHugh
7	(3)	532	SALVE JAPAN 19 H Palmer 9-0	S Osborne (3)
8	(7)	00-0	LADY HAMILTON 211 W Storey 8-10	C Hardie
9	(6)	503	MONROE GOLD 32   Jardine 8-10	A Mullen
10	<b>)</b> (9)	55062	TAFSIR 25 J Goldie 8-4	Amie Waugh (5)
11	(4)0	00500	PASHA BAY 6 Miss L Perratt 8-4	JP Sullivan
			Kanzino, 4-1 A La Francaise, 9-2 Super Sta ylvia Beach, Tafsir, 12-1 Monroe Gold, Lech	

## Plumpton

Going: good-good to firm in places on chase course Rob Wright's tips: 1.50 Lusaka 2.20 Heronord
2.50 Borntobealeader 3.20 Sergeant 3.50 Barest Of Margins
4.20 Cadeau D'Or 4.50 Invictus De Brion

# SASH WINDOW EXPERTS MAIDEN HURDLE (GBB RACE) £4.357- 2M 2F (5)

-		14,337: ZW ZF (3)	011
1	45/	Indigo Lake F38 (P) Dr R Newland 5-11-4	C Hammond
2	354-64	Mordred 26 (H) M Harris 6-11-4	M Bastyan
3		Thunder Flash F32 (BF) I Williams 5-11-4	C Todd
4	422	Lusaka 31 O Murphy 4-11-2	S Bowen
5	35255-	Seigneur Des As 224 M Harris 4-11-2	H Reed
		5-8 Seigneur Des As, 9-4 Lusaka, 9-2 Indigo Lake, r Flash, 7-1 Mordred	

# 2.20 ANDREW 'SUPER WACK' JACKSON MEMORIAL NOVICES'

1	444242	Heronord 13 E Williams 5-12-0	L Gordon (7)
2	0-3303	Right Destination 34 F O'Brien 8-11-1	Mr T Broughton (7)
3	2-4604	Easkey Lad 32 (T) R Curtis 7-11-1	B R Jones
4	2-6146	Arbennig 77 (B,T) J Snowden 6-10-13	Page Fuller
5	450105	Agent Saonois 26 (T) N Mulholland 6-10-4	H Reed
6	53-165	Special Buddy 27 (P,T) B Pauling 8-10-4	K Woods
		4 Heronord, 4-1 Easkey Lad, 5-1 Special Bu estination, Agent Saonois	ddy, Arbennig,

# **ROBWRIGHT'S**

# A La Française (4.30 Hamilton)

Bought out of Marcus Tregoning's yard over the summer, this filly has been highly tried in three runs since joining the trainer Jim Goldie.

She has shaped well in the past two races, though, finishing fourth over an inadequate nine-furlong trip here last month before a good third over this distance in a valuable Racing League race at Southwell.

Bred for stamina, the softer ground here should be to her liking, while this race represents a marked drop in class. A La Francaise looks sure to go well.

# $\begin{tabular}{lll} \bf 2.50 & Jon & Pandora & wedding & week & juvenile & hurdle \\ (GBB & RACE) & & & \\ £4,575: 2M & 2F & (7) & & \\ \end{tabular}$

1	31	Mr Freedom 14 (D) Miss S West 11-7	M Goldstein
2		Borntobealeader F21 D Pipe 11-0	T Scudamore
3	4	Executive Pool 14 (B,BF) G L Moore 11-0	
	7		N F Houlihan (3)
4		I Have A Voice F37 (T) N Hawke 11-0	D Noonan
5		Major Gatsby F34 W G M Turner 11-0	H Kimber (5)
6		Starspangledjama F10 G L Moore 11-0	Jamie Moore
7	34	Boudica Warrior 31 (B) Miss A Murphy 10-7	J Quinlan

Betting: 2-1 Mr Freedom, 7-2 Borntobealeader, 5-1 Executive Pool, 6-1 I Have A Voice, 8-1 Boudica Warrior, Major Gatsby, 16-1 Starspangledjama

# 3.20 FRIENDS & FAMILY REMEMBERING NORMAN SHARPE HANDICAP HURDLE

		E0,109: 2W (7)	
1	151-04	See The Sea F31 (T,D) D McCain 8-12-0	P J Kavanagh (
2	U510-1	Thibault F10 (T,C,D) A West 9-11-13 B	Ffrench-Davis (
3	P1/5P-	Runrized F10 (B,T,D) C Poulton 7-11-10	Charlie Price (
4	102-32	Just The Man F17 (D) J G O'Shea 6-11-8	K Broga
5	-11652	Glimpse Of Gold 14 (T,D) S Humphrey 11-11-6	3 J Tidball (
6	13505-	Ray's The One F41 M Pattinson 5-10-7	M Goldste
7	22-421	Sergeant 15 (D) M Harris 5-10-2	P Brenna
Be	ettina: 2	1 Sergeant, 9-4 Thibault, 5-1 Just The Man, 6-1	others

# 3.50 STRONG FLAVOURS CATERING HANDICAP CHASE

•		EJ,220: ZM IF (J)	
1	443132	Coal Stock 13 (B,BF) Syd Hosie 7-12-0	F Gillard (3)
2	OP315-	Fairway Freddy 153 (CD) N Gifford 9-11-11	J M Davies
3	14213-	Only Money 233 (BF) C Gordon 8-11-6	T Cannon
4	33-2F2	Barest Of Margins 34 M Channon 6-10-10	C O'Farrell
5	45U134	Trumps Benefit 27 (P,T,D) R Potter 9-10-2	C Quinn (7)
		1 Coal Stock, 11-4 Barest Of Margins, 3-1 Only	Money, 5-1

# 4.20 OAKLEAF PROPERTY GROUP HANDICAP HURDLE £4,084: 2M 4F 114YDS (13)

1	3-403	Cadeau D'Or 29 (T) D Pipe 5-12-0	T Scudamore
2	3U300/	Cherry Cola F10 Miss S West 6-11-12	M Goldstein
3	/4641-	Dante's View 369 G Baker 6-11-11	T Cannon
4	03-4P0	Pawpaw 51 (T,BF) B Pauling 5-11-5	K Woods
5	016/46	Texan Nomad 84 (H) R Harris 10-11-3	N Brennan (7)
6	/6063-	Coillte Eile 259 A West 9-11-2	L Edwards
7	F4P-06	Say Nothing 56 (B,D) A Hales 6-11-2	H Bannister
8	114323	Dellboy Trotter 11 (D) Tracey Leeson 6-11-0	T Buckley (3)
9	33-354	Andapa 31 (P) M Roberts 8-10-8	T J O'Brien
10	0006/1	Boomtime Banker 59 D J Jeffreys 8-10-2	Lilly Pinchin (3)
11	22/0P-	Chivers F137 D Steele 11-10-2	K Brogan
12	P2/03F	Lake Washington 26 G L Moore 9-10-2	C Quinn (7)
13	3050-3	Cobbs Corner 138 N Gifford 6-10-2	J M Davies
		-1 Dante's View, 9-2 Boomtime Banker, 7-1 Col	

# 

			* /	
1	4-P2	Dannystory	126 Harriet Brown 11-0	B Godfrey (3)
2	53-	Alien Storm	173 C Longsdon 10-12	Mr B Roberts (7)
3	2	Invictus De	Brion 68 C Gordon 10-12	T Cannon
4	2	Merrijig 55	J Berry 10-12	W T Kennedy
Bet	ting: 6	5 Invictus De	Brion, 2-1 Merrijig, 9-2 Alie	n Storm, 8-1 other

# **RACING**

# Going: good

**1.20** (1m) 1, **Gweedore** (Jason Hart, 12-1); 2, What's The Story (13-2); 3, Revich (3-1 fav). 14 ran. Nk, nk. K Scott. **1.55** (1m 2f) 1, **Royal Champion** (Jack Mitchell, 9-4); 2, Euchen Glen (7-1); 3, Stormy Antarctic (25-1). 11 ran. NR: Good Show. 5½l, 1½. R Varian.

3.05 (6f) 1, Barefoot Angel (P Mulrennan, 20-1); 2, Believing (12-1); 3, Queen Me (6-4 fav). 12 ran. NR: Immortal Beauty. Nk, 34. R A Fahey.

3.40 (6f) 1, Summerghand (D Tudhope, 12-1); 2, Commanche Falls (10-1); 3, Juan Les Pins (28-1).; 4, Lucky Man (18-1). 24 ran. NR: Honey Sweet. 11, ½1. D O'Meara.

4.15 (1m) 1, Metal Merchant (Rossa Ryan, 12-1); 2, Pol Roger (11-2); 3, Have Secret (5-1). 11 ran. NR: Disputed, Roll It In Glitter. 2¾I, nk. M R Channon.

**4.45** (7f 50yd) 1, **Abduction** (P Mulrennan, 15-2); 2, Brazen Bolt (10-3); 3, Gabrial The Devil (16-1). 13 ran. NR: Chookie Dunedin. Hd, 1l. J S Goldie.

**5.20** (1m 5f 26yd) 1, **Aimeric** (Jack Mitchell, 11-4 fav); 2, Heights Of Abraham (40-1); 3, Wor Willie (11-2). 15 ran. Sh hd, 1l. R Varian.

Placepot: £1,924.20. Quadpot: £172.50.

# Catterick

# Going: good to soft

**1.48** (7f 6yd) 1, **Spioradalta** (D C Costello, 10-1); 2, Valstar (22-1); 3, Hunkpapa (4-1). 10 ran. NR: Aihawawi. ¾I, 1l. M Walford.

**2.23** (5f 212yd) 1, **Pop World** (Phil Dennis, 2-1 fav); 2, The Compas Man (28-1); 3, We'renotreallyhere (9-4). 8 ran. 2½I, 1½I. M Dods. **2.58** (5f 212yd) 1, **Portelet Bay** (Owen Lewis, 15-2); 2, Final Account (25-1); 3, Wade's Magic (10-3). 11 ran. NR: Dapper Man. 34l, hd. P D Evans.

**3.33** (5f) 1, **Strength 'n Honour** (S Donohoe, 18-1); 2, Castan (16-5); 3, Doctor Mozart (11-1). 10 ran. NR: Lumacho. Nk, ¼l. C Fellowes.

**4.08** (1m 5f 192yd) 1, **Zimmerman** (S B Kirrane, 9-2); 2, Melburnian (7-2); 3, Magna Moralia (11-1). 8 ran. Nk, 2%. T

**4.40** (7f 6yd) 1, **Josiebond** (D C Costello, 8-1); 2, Wr Broadcast (14-1); 3, How Bizarre (11-1). 12 ran. 1l, 5 Walford.

5.15 (7f 6yd) 1, Desert Dream (D C Costello, 11-2); 2, Mr Strutter (3-1 fav); 3, Stoney Lane (4-1). 12 ran. ¾I, ½I. S Spencer.

**5.50** (1m 4f 13yd) 1, **Nietzsche** (Ben Robinson, 6-1); 2, Two Brothers (6-1); 3, Ice House (10-1). 9 ran. NR: Ochil House. Nk, 3½I. B Ellison.

Placepot: £1.088.60

Quadpot: £255.80.

# Going: yielding to soft

Rabel (6-4 fav); 3, Marcher Lord (9-2). 8 ran. NR: Lecale's Destiny, Self Belief. Nk, nk. Mrs J Harrington.

2.10 (1m) 1, Speirling Beag (K J Manning, 15-2); 2, Lumiere Rock (15-8 fav); 3, Delightful (2-1). 11 ran. NR: Lady Allessia. ½I, nk. J S Bolger.

**2.45** (1m) 1, **Mister Mister** (D McMonagle, 5-2); 2, Covent Garden (9-4 fav); 3, Squire Danagher (22-1). 13 ran. 3¾l, 2¾l. J P O'Brien.

3.20 (Im) 1, Miracles In May (B M Coen, 15-2); 2, Take My Hand (7-1); 3, Salt Whistle Bay (5-1), 15 ran. NR: Reverberation, Thegooseiscooked, Threescoreandten, Ya Ya Baby, 11/4], 1/4]. M A Cahill.

3.55 (1m 1f 100yd) 1, Paris Peacock (S Foley, 8-1); 2, Kawida (11-2); 3, Term Of Endearment (13-2), 16 ran. NR: Celtic Crown, Himalayan Beauty. Nk, 2½l. Mrs J Harrington.

**4.30** (1m 1f 100yd) 1, **Dare To Flare** (Amy Jo Hayes, 10-1); 2, Brewel Hill (11-2); 3, Knocknakilla (7-1), ; 4, Lamprog (9-1). 17 ran. NR: Back O' The Net, Barretstown, Darisana. Hd,

**5.05** (1m If 100yd) 1, **The Lute Player** (J A Heffernan, 12-1); 2, Only For Me (9-2); 3, Prophets Voice (7-2 fav). 16 ran NR: Glandore Harbour. ½I, 2½I. A P O'Brien.

5.40 (1m 4f) 1, Telecon (Stan Begley, 11-2); 2, Advantage Point (25-1); 3, Ambitious Fellow (2-1 fav). 14 ran. NR: Eternal Prince, Favorite Moon. 1/41, 71. M Fahey.

Placepot: €43.50.

# Newbury

**1.10** (7f) 1, **Exoplanet** (David Egan, 5-2 fav); 2, Bussento (10-3); 3, Conquistador (14-1). 15 ran. Nk, 4l. R Varian.

**1.40** (1m 3f) 1, **Stay Alert** (David Egan, 5-1); 2, Fancy Man (12-1); 3, Dubai Future (4-1). 9 ran. Nk, nk. H Morrison. **2.15** (5f 34yd) 1, **Mitbaahy** (David Egan, 9-2); 2, Teresa Mendoza (16-1); 3, Manaccan (11-4 fav). 12 ran. NR: White Lavender. Nk, ns. R Varian. **2.50** (6f) 1, **Sakheer** (David Egan, 4-5 fav); 2, Rousing Encore (20-1); 3, Charyn (12-1). 7 ran. 3½l, ¾l. R Varian.

**3.25** (1m 2f) 1, **Marching Army** (Louis Steward, 22-1); 2, Ottoman Fleet (11-2); 3, Warren Point (5-2 fav). 13 ran. Nk, 2l. S bin Suroor.

**4.00** (7f) 1, **Afterlife** (M Harley, 13-2); 2, Caragio (12-1); 3, Bloomwithgrace (18-1). 14 ran. NR: Finest Leader. Nk, ¾l. J

4.35 (In 4f) 1, Sir Rumi (P J Dobbs, 17-2); 2, Tartan Chief (11-2); 3, La Pulga (16-1). 14 ran. NR: Frontispiece, Noble Masquerade, Sword Beach. Nk, 1½. R Hannon.

**5.10** (7f) 1, **Rainbow Fire** (N Callan, 25-1); 2, Lyndon B (10-1); 3, Spanish Star (28-1).; 4, King Of Jungle (5-1 fav). 19 ran. NR: Dream Show . Nk, nk. M Botti.

Placenot: £421.80 Quadpot: £45.20.

# Newmarket

1.31 (Im) 1, **Trust The Stars** (Hector Crouch, 9-1); 2, Chelsea Green (13-2); 3, Therapist (7-1), 13 ran. ½I, 1I. R M Beckett.

2.06 (1m) 1, Al Husn (Dane O'Neill, 9-2); 2, Eidikos (12-1);

2.41 (7f) 1, Astral Beau (S W Kelly, 17-2); 2, Sense Of Power (7-2); 3, Mount Kosciuszko (9-1). 12 ran. Nk, nk. Mrs P Sly.

**3.16** (6f) 1, **Equiano Springs** (T P Queally, 10-3 fav); 2, Celsius (18-1); 3, Shark Two One (16-1). 11 ran. NR: Abate. 1/4], 1/2|. T P Tate.

**3.51** (2m 2f) **1, Rajinsky** (Harry Davies, 9-2); 2, Prince Imperial (12-1); 3, Call My Bluff (13-2). 10 ran. 1¼, nk. H Palmer.

4.26 (1m 2f) 1, Value Theory (Daniel Muscutt, 11-4 fav); 2, Suzy's Shoes (13-2); 3, Thebeautifulgame (10-1). 8 ran.

**5.01** (1m 1f) 1, **The Menstone Gem** (Mr M W Brown, 28-1); 2, Masque Of Anarchy (20-1); 3, Mark Of Respect (7-1).; 4, Voltaic (20-1). 20 ran. 1½l, 1½l. Craig Lidster.

Placepot: £551.80. Quadpot: £38.50.

# Wolverhampton

**4.50** (Im 1f 104yd) 1, **Mirabello Bay** (L P Keniry, 18-1); 2, Cariad (10-11 fav); 3, Pink Lily (33-1). 7 ran. Nk, 11/sl. J S Moore.

**5.25** (1m 142yd) 1, **Lion Kingdom** (Benoit D L Sayette, 7-2); 2, Cobalt Blue (5-4 fav); 3, Maid In Kentucky (12-1). 10 ran. 1¼, 1½l. J R Fanshawe.

5.55 (6f 20yd) 1, Newyorkstateofmind (Stefano Cherchi, 4-1); 2, Sarah's Verse (15-2); 3, Q Twenty Boy (25-1). 11 ran %1, 21. W Muir C Grassick.

**6.30** (6f 20yd) 1, **Wasdale** (Stefano Cherchi, 15-2); 2, Man Made Of Smoke (6-1); 3, Bojink (11-1). 7 ran. NR: Elongate. 134l, 134l. Miss J A Camacho.

7.00 (6f 20yd) 1, **Griggy** (Grace McEntee, 5-1); 2, Babe Alicious (7-2); 3, Nacho (15-2). 9 ran. NR: Brave Display, Hotter In Time, Showdiemlad. Nk, 1½I. J Butler.

**7.30** (6f 20yd) 1, **Admirable Lad** (Joey Haynes, 85-40 fav); 2, Clashaniska (7-1); 3, My Boy Jack (4-1). 9 ran. NR: Baileys Bling, Hard Solution. Nk, ½l. C Banham.

8.00 (7f 36yd) 1, Aviary (Christian Howarth, 40-1); 2, Willing To Please (20-1); 3, Lockdown Lass (33-1). 11 ran NR: Lucia Joy. ¾I, ¼I. A Wintle.

8.30 (7f 36yd) 1, Atlantic Heart (L Morris, 15-2); 2, Mumma Mac (16-1); 3, Brazen Diamond (7-4 fav), 10 ran. NR: Buraback, Mumayaz. Hd, 11/4l. D C Kubler.

Placepot: £69.30.

Quadpot: £27.80.

# **LESSONS FROM A LIFE IN SPORT LIZ JOHNSON**

The Paralympic swimmer on lamb paneer, a failed Tarzan impression, and the emotion of winning gold after the death of her mother



# WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

I was super-competitive but I couldn't play netball for the school because there wasn't a system in place that enabled someone with one short leg to get away with footfaulting. I needed to explore another option and swimming was the most established parasport. Everything is based on times, so you know what you're going for and it became part of my DNA.

# MY BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT

At the National Championships in March 1996, I competed with people who were going to that year's Paralympics. As they weren't anything special, just humans, that planted the seed. At that moment, I realised I wanted to make it.

# THE TRAINER I LOOKED UP TO

Kate Hurley got me into it and built up my strokes and my confidence. Billy Pye of British Disability Swimming helped me balance my swimming and academic careers. Johnson He was poolside eight hours a day celebrates after and was with me through the glory years. With Mark Skimming at Team winning gold Bath, I reached my potential in terms of how fast I could go and how **Paralympic** strong I could be Games in Beijing

# MY CHILDHOOD HERO

My mum, Yvonne, although everyone called her Bonnie. The older I'm getting, the more I realise how strong and selfless she was. She must have always been waiting for that call saying 'Liz has fallen over, come and get her'. She could never rest, but she never said 'no you can't do that because of your disability'.

# SWIMMING NEVER GOT ANY BETTER THAN

Paralympic gold in Beijing 2008. Mum had died 10 days before and on the podium it was just 'don't cry, don't cry, don't cry'. Everything after that was a bonus.

# MORNING I HAD THE HANGOVER TO END ALL HANGOVERS

I'm independent but I'm still onesided and lop-sided. If someone pushes me or wants to hurt me, I'm quite vulnerable. I never let myself get to the point where I've no control over what happens, so hangovers were the comedowns after games.

# **MY FAVOURITE VENUE**

The Europasportpark in Berlin will always have a special place in my heart. When I first went, it was overwhelming because it was all white. I'd get lost all the time because it looked the same, but by the end I was so comfortable there.

# **MY LEAST FAVOURITE VENUE**

The London Aquatics Centre. I love to have a paddle there now I've finished, but the way it's built meant a lot of walking. As someone with a pegleg, I never swam that well, because I was always tired by the time I raced. All the athletes who had disabilities in their lower limbs struaaled.

## MY TOUGHEST OPPONENT

My team-mate, Charlotte Henshaw. We could never rest on our laurels and never have a bad day. Even if I went to a local meet, she'd be there. Everybody thought we must really dislike each other, but we're so similar and we got on so well.

# MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT FROM **YOUR CAREER**

In Beijing, when the guys got their medals, one of them beat their chest like Tarzan. I thought I'd do the same. I've only got one functional hand though and I had a bouquet too. My bouquet shook and all the petals kept falling down. It made the closing montage. Every time I play it back, I cut it off before then. I look ridiculous.

# I LEARNT MOST FROM

Having a relationship with my mum where nothing was off limits. At the 2002 World Championships, I was one of the few to come back without a medal. Mum was 'what can we do to change this?'. The lesson I learned was 'don't try and fix things yourself'. You always have a choice: knowing that is a superpower for me.

# **MY GUILTY PLEASURE**

I can go for ages without shopping, but I'm a sucker for a sale. I don't buy anything for full price. If I feel like I'm not getting a good deal, I don't buy it, even houses

# MY FAVOURITE MEAL

Lamb chops and mint sauce would be my last meal, but I really like curry, so it's a lamb paneer cooked myself.

# I KNEW THE GAME WAS UP WHEN...

... swimming wasn't my main priority. My husband swims as well and after London 2012, I started to focus on his swimming rather than mine. I love going to meets to broadcast, but I don't miss competitive swimming.

### **BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG** SPORTSMAN/WOMAN

Recognise the people you need to support you, and keep checking the little person you were when you started competing is still there and having fun.

John Aizlewood

# **YOUR NEXT**



# **BEN STOKES: PHOENIX FROM** THE ASHES AMAZON PRIME

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about this documentary is the timing of some of its filming. In July last year, Ben Stokes took an "indefinite break" from cricket after what he describes as a panic attack in a Nottingham hotel room. Only a few weeks later, Stokes faced the director Sam Mendes's questions. Stokes looks and sounds like the washed-out husk of a man that he was at the time. Analysing himself after returning to the cricket fold. he is shocked, but a perfect storm drove him to despair: the death of his father from brain cancer; a period of lockdown mostly spent in a succession of hotel rooms; the night in Bristol where he protected a gay couple from homophobic abuse and was subsequently charged with affray. Like many men, he found it so hard to express his feelings. "I've never been a talker," he says. Stokes's journey from a childhood in New Zealand and Cockermouth to the England Test captaincy has been far from smooth, and while Phoenix From The Ashes is unflinching, it's never brutal. He should be proud of himself.

John Aizlewood

# LETTERS

Send your letters to: The Sports Editor, The Sunday Times, 1 London Bridge St London, SE19GF email: sportletters @sunday-times.co.uk As someone who can just recall the death of King George VI, I am unimpressed by the criticism of the soccer authorities (David Walsh and Jonathan Northcroft, September 11). If we cannot forego our sports for a few days to respect someone who gave us a lifetime, where is the "grief, sympathy and love"? Dave Lees, Swansea

2 OMEGA

I think a lot of so-called football experts, including a number of columnists from the Sunday Times, have missed the point. One major reason why the football schedule was cancelled after the passing of Her Majesty the Queen is down to behaviour.

Football still attracts a large number of idiots looking for trouble which would have stretched police resources at this difficult time. All other

sports carry on without any security issues

# Simon Pott, Surrey

Stephen Jones poses the question, 'What must Premiership Rugby do to bring back the crowds?' and makes some interesting suggestions. However, I think he misses the point. I have loved rugby since starting the game aged 11 until two concussions in a year persuaded me to stop (at least my wife did).

However, I have handed in my debenture seat this year to Jersey Reds because in common with most teams, the top tryscorer was the hooker. Unless something is done to limit the gains made by rolling mauls, the game will descend into a simple battle between the sets of forwards as to who can get the most lineouts near the opposing try line and then

maul over for a try. The other players might as well go home.

Spectators want to see flowing moves by the backs culminating in a try, not muscular armwresting with the ball stuffed up the jumper

# Harry Read, via email

My wife and I went to the Exeter v Leicester game last Saturday and sat in their new modern stand. This experience was ruined by two issues. One: kicking for five minutes while waiting for the other side to make a mistake with all the risks attached when players jump in the air to receive the ball. Rule makers must insist that to catch the ball the player must have at least one foot on the ground or we are going to witness a fatality. Two: the constant

disruption from members of the crowd getting up for alcohol or dealing with the effects of alcohol.

I will not be able to persuade my wife to visit again in the future. If rugby is to survive as a modern spectator sport these two issues need serious attention.

# Paul Martin, Devon

So Stephen Jones wonders why only two million out of the "about nine million people in England who have a significant affection for rugby" attend Gallagher Premiership matches.

Three obvious reasons for the missing seven million: not everyone lives within a comfortable distance of a Premiership team; not everyone would rather watch Premiership rugby than their local grassroots club with all

the associated camaraderie; not everyone gets into Premiership matches for free like Stephen Jones. To attend a full season of a Gallagher Premiership team is not a cheap undertaking. Rob Blacklock, Kenilworth

Regarding John Williams's suggestions to stop shirt-pulling in football (Letters, September 11), my preference would be to award a penalty irrespective of where the offence occurs. I would also apply it to all obviously deliberate fouls (we know what they are). Cards could still be applied as usual for dangerous tackles.

This would solve the problem, improve the excitement of counterattacks and also stop games being spoiled by a sending off. Jack Kerr, Livingston

# Football Results

# **SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP**

CARDIFF O Att: 19,193 BLACKBURN O Att: 9,839 BLACKPOOL 1 Patino 33 Att: 11,463 WEST BROM 1 O'Shea 9 Att: 26,303 SHEFF UTD 2	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
CARDIFF 0  Att: 19,193  BLACKBURN 0  Att: 9,839  BLACKPOOL 1  Patino 33  Att: 11,463  WEST BROM 1  O'Shea 9  Att: 26,303	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
CARDIFF O Att: 19,193 BLACKBURN O Att: 9,839 BLACKPOOL 1 Patino 33 Att: 11,463 WEST BROM 1 O'Shea 9 Att: 26,303	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
Att: 19,193  BLACKBURN 0  Att: 9,839  BLACKPOOL 1  Patino 33  Att: 11,463  WEST BROM 1  O'Shea 9  Att: 26,303	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
Att: 19,193  BLACKBURN 0  Att: 9,839  BLACKPOOL 1  Patino 33  Att: 11,463  WEST BROM 1  O'Shea 9  Att: 26,303	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
Att: 19,193  BLACKBURN 0  Att: 9,839  BLACKPOOL 1  Patino 33  Att: 11,463  WEST BROM 1  O'Shea 9  Att: 26,303	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
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WEST BROM 1 O'Shea 9 Att: 26,303	15 16 17
O'Shea 9 Att: 26,303	16 17
O'Shea 9 Att: 26,303	17
Att: 26,303	-
	18
CHEEF HTD 2	
SHEFF UID 2	19
Ndiaye 40	20
McBurnie 75 Att: 18.412	-
ALL: 10,412	21
STOKE 0	22
	23
HULL O	24
HOLLO	
Att: 15,207	
Alese 45	
ALL: 19,707	
•	Att: 15,207

Ince 63

		Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pt
1	Sheff Utd	10	7	2	1	19	5	14	23
2	Norwich	10	6	2	2	16	9	7	20
3	Reading	10	6	0	4	10	14	-4	18
4	Burnley	10	4	5	1	17	10	7	17
5	Sunderland	10	4	3	3	16	11	5	15
6	QPR	10	4	3	3	14	11	3	15
7	Blackburn	10	5	0	5	11	13	-2	15
8	Rotherham	9	3	5	1	12	6	6	14
9	Bristol City	10	4	2	4	19	16	3	14
10	Watford	10	3	5	2	11	11	0	14
11	Luton	10	3	4	3	11	10	1	13
12	Wigan	9	3	4	2	9	11	-2	13
13	Millwall	10	4	1	5	11	14	-3	13
14	Stoke	10	3	3	4	11	11	0	12
15	Preston North End	10	2	6	2	3	4	-1	12
16	Swansea	10	3	3	4	10	12	-2	12
17	Birmingham	10	3	3	4	8	10	-2	1:
18	Cardiff	10	3	2	5	7	11	-4	1
19	Blackpool	10	3	2	5	10	15	-5	1
20	Hull	10	3	2	5	11	21	-10	1
21	West Brom	10	1	7	2	15	14	1	10
22	Middlesbrough	10	2	4	4	13	15	-2	10
23	Huddersfield	9	2	1	6	9	13	-4	7
24	Coventry	7	0	3	4	7	13	-6	3



Tom Ince celebrates his winner for Reading

NATIONAL LEAGUE	
ALDERSHOT 5	HALIFAX 1
Cordner 26, 40, Glover 50,	Dieseruvwe 37
Amaluzor 69, Effiong 86	HT 2-1
BROMLEY 3	MAIDSTONE UTD 0
Sowunmi 15, Marriott 44, 48	Att: 3,386
DAG & RED 4	ALTRINCHAM 1
Onariase 26, Vilhete 34	Lundstram 78
Barrows 65 (og), Walker 69	
HT: 2-0	Att: 1,162
DORKING WANDERERS 3	NOTTS CO 1
McShane 19, 90, 90	Scott 50
HT: 1-0	Att: 2,402
GATESHEAD 1	BOREHAM WOOD 1
Hasani 15	Rees 50
HT: 1-0	Att: 1,112
MAIDENHEAD UTD 1	WOKING O
Acquah 74	Att: 1,409
OLDHAM 3	EASTLEIGH 2
Burgess 3	Whitehall 29, 38
Fondop-Talom 64, Wellens	
HT: 1-2	Att: 6,637
SCUNTHRPE 1	YORK 1
Apter 88	John-Lewis 23 (pen)
HT: 0-1	Att: 3,758
SOLIHULL MOORS 1	BARNET 1
Dallas 30 (pen)	De Havilland 3
HT: 1-1	Att: 1,407
SOUTHEND 0	WREXHAM O
WEALDSTONE 1	TORQUAY 1
Browne 67	Omar 2
HT: 0-1	Att: 1,366
YEOVIL 2	CHESTERFIELD 2
Toure 3, Staunton 80	Grimes 8, Uchegbulam 87
HT: 1-1	Att: 2,672

HT: 0-0

IIDDLESBROUGH O

		P	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
1	Chesterfield	9	6	3	0	19	10	9	21
2	Wrexham	9	6	2	1	23	8	15	20
3	Solihull Moors	9	5	3	1	23	10	13	18
4	Notts County	9	5	3	1	21	9	12	18
5	Boreham Wood	9	5	3	1	14	7	7	18
6	Wealdstone	9	4	4	1	10	7	3	16
7	Bromley	9	5	1	3	12	10	2	16
8	York	9	4	3	2	10	7	3	15
9	Barnet	9	4	2	3	14	12	2	14
10	Woking	9	4	1	4	13	10	3	13
11	Dorking W	9	4	1	4	15	21	-6	13
12	Eastleigh	9	3	2	4	11	13	-2	11
13	Dag & Red	9	3	2	4	13	17	-4	11
14	Oldham	9	3	2	4	10	14	-4	11
15	Maidstone Utd	9	3	2	4	11	20	-9	11
16	Maidenhead	9	3	1	5	7	11	-4	10
17	Southend	9	2	3	4	8	9	-1	9
18	Aldershot	9	3	0	6	13	16	-3	9
19	Yeovil	9	1	5	3	9	11	-2	8
20	Torquay	9	2	2	5	6	12	-6	8
21	FC Halifax	9	2	2	5	7	14	-7	8
22	Gateshead	9	1	4	4	12	15	-3	7
23	Scunthorpe	9	1	2	6	10	18	-8	5
24	Altrincham	9	0	5	4	9	19	-10	5

# **LEAGUE ONE**

Jack Diamond, on loan from Sunderland, scored a hat-trick, the first goal from the penalty spot. for Lincoln City in their thrilling 6-3 win away to Bristol Rovers (Peter Wilson writes). Ben House opened and closed the scoring for the visiting side, with Matt Virtue also on target. Aaron Collins, with two, and Ryan Loft replied for Joey Barton's side.

Portsmouth hung on to their unbeaten record thanks to Reeco Hackett-Fairchild's stoppage-time header in the 2-2 draw against Plymouth Argyle.

Another loanee, Josh Koroma, who ioined Portsmouth from Huddersfield Town, fired his side in front just before half-time. A Sean Raggett own goal

ACCRINGTON STANLEY 1

McConville 1
BOLTON 1
Afolayan 86
BRISTOL R 3
Collins 18, 65
Loft 60
HT: 1-3

CAMB UTD O

DERBY 2

EXETER O

FLEETWOOD TOWN

FOREST GRN 1

OXFORD UTD 1

PORT VALE 2

PORTSMOUTH 2 Koroma 41 Hackett-Fairchild 90 HT: 1-0

Sean McConville hit Accrington's first first-half league goal this season in the 1-0 defeat of **Cheltenham Town** 

pulled Plymouth level, with substitute Niall Ennis firing the away side in front soon after. But they had Brendan Galloway sent off in stoppage time, just before second-placed Portsmouth equalised through the substitute Hackett-Fairchild.

Ipswich Town remain top despite throwing away a two-goal lead in the 2-2 draw away to Sheffield Wednesday. Kayden Jackson and Dominic Iorfa's

CHELTENHAM O

PETERBORO O LINCOLN C 6

BARNSLEY 3

WYCOMBE 1

**CHARLTON 1** 

MORECAMBE 2 Phillips 44, Rawson 90 Att: 2,601 MILTON KEYNES DONS 2

**BURTON ALBION 2** 

Cole 24, Cundy 76, N

own goal seemed to make it comfortable for the visiting side. **But George Byers** pulled a goal back before Michael Smith equalised with an 89thminute header.

Morecambe and Burton Albion got off the mark with their first league wins of the season. Morecambe came from behind to win 2-1 away to Forest Green Rovers, while bottom club **Burton Albion** won 2-0 away to Exeter City.

Cambridge United 's home winning run ended with a 3-0 defeat by Barnsley, who had Liam Kitching sent off at 1-0.

Peterborough United's woes continued with a sixth straight defeat in all competitions 1-0 away to Bolton Wanderers.

		Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
1	Ipswich	9	6	3	0	18	6	12	21
2	Portsmouth	9	6	3	0	19	8	11	21
3	Plymouth	9	6	1	2	16	11	5	19
4	Sheff Wed	9	5	2	2	17	9	8	17
5	Bolton	9	5	2	2	11	6	5	17
6	Barnsley	9	4	2	3	13	9	4	14
7	Derby	9	4	2	3	9	9	0	14
8	Lincoln City	9	3	4	2	14	14	0	13
9	Cambridge Utd	9	4	1	4	12	15	-3	13
10	Peterborough	9	4	0	5	14	10	4	12
11	Fleetwood T	9	2	6	1	9	8	1	12
12	Shrewsbury	9	3	3	3	9	10	-1	12
13	Port Vale	9	3	3	3	10	12	-2	12
14	Charlton	9	2	5	2	13	11	2	11
15	Exeter	9	3	2	4	12	10	2	11
16	Wycombe	9	3	2	4	12	12	0	11
17	Accrington	9	2	4	3	10	12	-2	10
18	MK Dons	9	3	1	5	9	11	-2	10
19	Oxford Utd	9	3	1	5	8	10	-2	10
20	Cheltenham	9	2	2	5	8	12	-4	8
21	<b>Bristol Rovers</b>	9	2	2	5	13	19	-6	8
22	Forest Green	9	2	2	5	8	18	-10	8
23	Morecambe	9	1	4	4	6	16	-10	7
24	<b>Burton Albion</b>	9	1	1	7	10	22	-12	4

# **LEAGUE TWO**

The Mark Hughes era at Bradford City seems to be finally under way. His side made it four straight wins in all competitions with the 3-0 defeat of Stevenage.

Andy Cook has been key to the upturn in Bradford's fortunes, and the 31-year-old forward hit his tenth goal in all competitions this season with a sixth-minute header. Number 11 came in the 56th minute with a close-range strike against a side who had won nine of their 11 matches in all competitions this season.

Tyreik Wright scored City's third with a deflected shot, before his team-mate **Brad Halliday** was sent off.

Leyton Orient recorded their



Cook hit two for **Bradford City** 

eighth win in nine league games this term, 1-0 against Walsall. Omar Beckles struck the only goal after 58 minutes to stretch Orient's lead at the top to four points.

Barrow have given their manager, Pete Wild, a new longterm contract. It is easy to see why. The club who finished one place outside the relegation positions last season moved up to second with a 2-0 win away to Newport County

Josh Gordon scored twice for the visitors, the second a penalty, as Newport lost at home for the ninth time in ten games.

Salford City managers do not hang around long enough to enjoy the fruits of a longterm deal — and that includes Richie Wellens, now sitting top with Leyton Orient. Neil Wood will hope to have better luck. The former Manchester United under-23 coach has had a good start in the Salford hot seat, but that run was interrupted by a 1-0 home defeat by Tranmere Rovers.

Grimsby Town won a fourth straight away league match, 1-0 against Colchester United, with Harry Clifton on target.

STEVENAGE O
Att: 16,917
AFC WIMBLEDON 1
Assal 59
Att: 5,038
GRIMSBY 1
Clifton 63
Att: 3,167
CRAWLEY TOWN 0
Att: 3,717
SWINDON 1
Wakeling 60
MANSFIELD 2
Akins 17
Lapslie 34
WALSALL O
Att: 6,736
BARROW 2
Gordon 45, 59 (pen)
Att: 3,793
ROCHDALE O
Att: 4,691
TRANMERE 1
Hawkes 34
HARROGATE TOWN 0
HARTLEPOOL O
Att: 2,766

		Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
1	Leyton Orient	9	8	1	0	16	4	12	25
2	Barrow	9	7	0	2	15	9	6	21
3	Northampton	9	6	2	1	19	10	9	20
4	Stevenage	9	6	1	2	11	9	2	19
5	Bradford	9	5	2	2	14	7	7	17
6	Salford City	9	5	2	2	13	7	6	17
7	Mansfield	9	5	1	3	14	9	5	16
8	Grimsby	8	4	3	1	8	5	3	15
9	Crewe	9	4	3	2	11	9	2	15
10	Sutton Utd	9	4	2	3	11	9	2	14
11	Swindon	9	3	5	1	10	8	2	14
12	Doncaster	9	4	2	3	10	11	-1	14
13	Carlisle	8	3	4	1	10	8	2	13
14	Tranmere	9	3	1	5	9	9	0	10
15	Walsall	9	2	3	4	10	9	1	9
16	Stockport County	9	2	2	5	10	13	-3	8
17	AFC Wimbledon	9	2	2	5	9	13	-4	8
18	Harrogate Town	9	2	2	5	6	11	-5	8
19	<b>Newport County</b>	9	2	1	6	9	13	-4	7
20	Crawley Town	9	1	3	5	8	13	-5	6
21	Colchester	9	1	3	5	7	13	-6	6
22	Gillingham	9	1	3	5	2	11	-9	6
23	Hartlepool	9	0	4	5	6	17	-11	4
24	Rochdale	9	0	2	7	5	16	-11	2

**England** rugby hooker Amy Cokayne on why her name means she has to be a Villa fan

# WHY ASTON VILLA

My dad Ian was a huge fan, so huge that he named me Amy Victoria Fiona Cokayne (AVFC) so I had to be Villa for life. He always tells stories about travelling all over Europe watching them. He has all the shirts from every season

> since back in the day. He used to take me all the time but when we moved to New Zealand it was hard to keep up.

# **EARLY TIMES**

We'd go to Villa Park as a family. We even went when my brother Thomas broke his foot and we had to carry him in. We'd sit in the Trinity Road Stand because my mum didn't want us in the Holte End [the most vocal stand]. I loved going, I'd get

completely swept away in the atmosphere.

# **BEST OF TIMES**

Quite recently, when we got out of the Championship in 2019 under Dean Smith after three seasons. It had been such a sad time, with the club nearly going into liquidation. We almost didn't have Aston Villa any more. Getting back in the Premier



**Smith led Aston Villa to promotion** 

League was the end of that period thankfully.

# **WORST OF TIMES**

Getting relegated. We were one of those clubs that hadn't been relegated from the Premier League. My real problem was that I never believed it would happen. Playing Burton Albion was a chastening experience.

# MY FAVOURITE PLAYER

Gareth Barry, He was so reliable, You knew exactly what you were going to get with him. And what you got was always good.

# MY LEAST FAVOURITE PLAYER

Jack Grealish, now he's gone. I genuinely didn't think he'd leave, what with him being a Villa lad. He was my brother's favourite player and now in our house he's the one

who cannot be named. I don't think we'll ever be able to afford to buy him back, but if we did, I'd welcome him and so would most Villa fans. Deep down he's one of us.

# **STEVEN GERRARD?**

Unlike my brother who's very much, 'get him out now,' I'm going through a period of umming and ahing. We've got to stick with him for little bit. In football, it's always, 'get a new manager and things are going to be better' but it doesn't always work that way. We need to stick it out for as long as possible.

# WHAT DO VILLA FANS WANT?

It changes over time. What I'd like is to get back into Europe. I'd love to travel to away games — but I don't think my brother and his mates would invite me...

John Aizlewood

F4 96m

£3 86m

May 2012

May 2012

£1 13n

Mar 2012

May 2021

Feb 2017

Oct 2015

Mar 2002

Jun 2019

# REMIER LEAGUE

		Home										Α	way								
		P	W	D	L	F	Α	P	W	D	L	F	Α	P	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
1	Man City	7	5	2	0	23	6	3	3	0	0	14	2	4	2	2	0	9	4	17	17
2	Tottenham	7	5	2	0	18	7	4	4	0	0	13	4	3	1	2	0	5	3	11	17
3	Arsenal	6	5	0	1	14	7	3	3	0	0	8	4	3	2	0	1	6	3	7	15
4	Brighton	6	4	1	1	11	5	3	2	1	0	6	2	3	2	0	1	5	3	6	13
5	Man Utd	6	4	0	2	8	8	3	2	0	1	6	4	3	2	0	1	2	4	0	12
6	Fulham	7	3	2	2	12	11	3	2	1	0	7	5	4	1	1	2	5	6	1	11
7	Chelsea	6	3	1	2	8	9	3	2	1	0	6	4	3	1	0	2	2	5	-1	10
8	Liverpool	6	2	3	1	15	6	3	2	1	0	12	2	3	0	2	1	3	4	9	9
9	Brentford	6	2	3	1	15	9	3	2	1	0	10	3	3	0	2	1	5	6	6	9
10	Newcastle	7	1	5	1	8	7	4	1	3	0	6	4	3	0	2	1	2	3	1	8
11	Leeds	6	2	2	2	10	10	3	2	1	0	6	2	3	0	1	2	4	8	0	8
12	Bournemouth	7	2	2	3	6	19	3	1	1	1	2	3	4	1	1	2	4	16	-13	8
13	Southampton	7	2	1	4	7	11	3	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	0	3	3	7	-4	7
14	Aston Villa	7	2	1	4	6	10	4	2	1	1	4	3	3	0	0	3	2	7	-4	7
15	Crystal Palace	6	1	3	2	7	9	3	1	1	1	4	4	3	0	2	1	3	5	-2	6
16	Wolverhampton	7	1	3	3	3	7	4	1	2	1	2	4	3	0	1	2	1	3	-4	6
17	Everton	6	0	4	2	4	6	3	0	2	1	1	2	3	0	2	1	3	4	-2	4
18	West Ham	6	1	1	4	3	8	3	0	1	2	1	5	3	1	0	2	2	3	-5	4
19	Nottm Forest	7	1	1	5	6	17	4	1	0	3	5	8	3	0	1	2	1	9	-11	4
20	Leicester	7	0	1	6	10	22	3	0	1	2	3	5	4	0	0	4	7	17	-12	1

# PREMIER LEAGUE AND SCOTLAND

WOLVES O	MAN CITY 3
Sent off: Collins 33	Grealish 1
	Haaland 16, Foden 69
HT: 0-2	Att: 31,578
NEWCASTLE 1	BOURNEMOUTH 1
Isak 67	Billing 62
HT: 0-0	Att: 52,238
TOTTENHAM 6	LEICESTER 2
Kane 8, Dier 21	Tielemans (pen) 6
Bentancur 47	Maddison 41
Son 73, 84, 87	4 04.450
HT: 2-2	Att: 61,450
Scottish Premiership	
HIBERNIAN 3	ABERDEEN 1
Boyle 45 (pen)	Lopes 4
Campbell 62, 73	
HT: 1-1	Att: 17,292
LIVINGSTON 1	KILMARNOCK O
Montano 25	
HT: 1-0	Att: 2,253
RANGERS 2	DUNDEE UTD 1

	P	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts
Celtic	6	6	0	0	25	1	18
Rangers	7	5	1	1	16	8	16
Livingston	7	4	0	3	6	9	12
Hibernian	7	3	2	2	9	7	11
Aberdeen	7	3	1	3	14	10	10
Hearts	6	3	1	2	10	8	10
Motherwell	6	3	1	2	7	6	10
St Mirren	6	3	0	3	6	8	9
St Johnstone	7	2	1	4	7	10	7
Ross County	7	1	2	4	4	11	5
Kilmarnock	7	1		5	3	12	
Dundee Utd	7	0	2	5	3	20	2
Scottish Champio	onshi	p					
DUNDEE 2			- 1	NVE	RN	ESS	ст з
0 10				1	Harr	ner 1!	5, 83
Sweeney 12							pen)
Sweeney 12							
McMullan 57				Mc	кау	45 (	pen
McMullan 57 HT: 1-2							
McMullan 57							PK 2
McMullan 57 HT: 1-2					UEE	N'S	

Colak 8, 49

HT: 1-0			Att: 2,918										
RAITH 3						Α	YR 2						
Connell 8 Stanton 35, Brown HT: 2-0	35, Brown 83 Murdoc Att: 2,												
	Р	w	D	L	F	Α	Pts						
Partick	7	4	2	1	16	10	14						
Ayr	7	4	2	1	14	10	14						
Queen's Park	7	4	1	2	12	11	13						
Inverness CT	7	3	2	2	11	9	11						
Dundee	7	3	1	3	13	11	10						
Raith	7	3	0	4	8	10	9						
Morton	7	2	2	3	6	7	8						
Hamilton	7	1	4	2	7	10	7						
Cove Rangers	7	1	2	4	9	13	5						
Arbroath	7	1	2	4	5	10	5						

HT: 0-1

HT- 0-2

PARTICK 2

Lawless 17

MORTON 1

McGrattan 90

Att: 49.334

# **HOW JORDAN TRUMPED DIEGO** IN THE AUCTION STAKES

On Thursday, in an auction at Sotheby's, the jersey worn by Michael Jordan during the Chicago Bulls' run to win the NBA Championship set a record for the most expensive item of sporting memorabilia, beating the figure set a few months earlier by the purchaser of Diego Maradona's 'Hand of God' shirt.



### Most expensive ...

Sports jerseys, and date sold

Michael Jordan (basketball) 3 Chicago Bulls, 1998 NBA finals Sep 2022 Diego Maradona (football) 2 Apr 2022 1986 World Cup 'Hand of God' match

Babe Ruth (baseball) New York Yankees 1928-1930, June 2019

Babe Ruth (baseball) New York Yankees1920, May 2012 Michael Jordan (basketball)

University of North Carolina 1982-1983 Paul Henderson (ice hockey) Team Canada, 1972 Summit Series

Wilt Chamberlain (basketball) Philadelphia Warriors 1961-62

Daniel Ruettiger (college football) David Gallaher (rugby union)

New Zealand, 1905 Pele (football)

1970 World Cup final Figures in millions are rounded where applicable. Joel Bland Football memorabilia, and date sold

**Diego Maradona** 1986 World Cup 'Hand of God' match £7.1m Apr 2022

Sheffield FC, 1857

Oldest surviving FA Cup trophy Presented to teams 1896-1910

Special replica version

1970 Jules Rimet trophy

1970 World Cup final shirt

1968 European Cup winner's medal

1966 World Cup winner's medal

Gordon Banks' 1966 World Cup winner's medal

Sir Geoff Hurst's 4 1966 World Cup final shirt

World's oldest football rulebook £881.250 Jul 2011

£760.000 Sep 2020

Jun 2016 Nobby Stiles' £188,200 1966 World Cup winner's medal Oct 2010

£500,884

£157,750

Oct 2010

Mar 2002 £156,000 George Best's

£140,000 May 2005

£124,750

£91,750 Sep 2000

# **FOOTBALL FIXTURES**

Att: 1,472

Hilson 12 McKenna 40 (pen

Att · 1 473 COVE RANGERS 2

ARBROATH 2

Reynolds 81. 84

Today
Premier League Brentford v Arsenal (12.0);
Everton v West Ham United (2.15)
Scottish Premiership St Mirren v Celtic (12.0);
Motherwell v Heart of Midlothian (3.0)

Tuesday
EFL Trophy Morecambe v Hartlepool United
(7.0); AFC Wimbledon v Crawley Town (7.45);
Cheltenham Town v Walsall (7.0); Stevenage v
Wycombe Wanderers (7.0); Peterborough
United v Tottenham Hotspur U21 (7.30);
Swindon Town v Plymouth Argyle (7.0);
Newport County v Forest Green Rovers (7.45);
Leyton Orient v Sutton United (7.0);
Northampton Town v Cambridge United (7.0) Leyton Orient v Sutton United (7.0);
Northampton Town v Cambridge United (7.0);
Ipswich Town v Arsenal U21 (7.45); Tranmere
Rovers v Bolton Wanderers (7.0); Shrewsbury
Town v Port Vale (7.0); Stockport County v
Wolverhampton Wanderers U21 (7.30);
Rochdale v Liverpool U21 (7.0); Salford City v
Accrington Stanley (7.30); Barnsley v Newcastl
U21 (7.0); Lincoln v Doncaster Rovers (7.0);
Grimsby v Mansfield (7.30); Carlisle v Fleetwoo
Town (7.0); Sheffield Wednesday v Burton (7.0)

Wednesday Uefa Nations League: Group B1 Scotland v Ukraine (7.45).

BONESS LITD 1

Thursday
Uefa Nations League Group A1 Croatia v
Denmark (7.45); France v Austria (7.45), Group
C3 Kazakhstan v Belarus (3.0); Slovakia v
Azerbaijan (7.45). Group D1 Latvia v Moldova
(5.0); Liechtenstein v Andorra (7.45). Group A4
Belgium v Wales (7.45); Poland v Netherlands
(7.45). Group C1 Lithuania v Faroe Islands
(7.45); Turkey v Luxembourg (7.45).

Friday
Usefa Nations League: Group C4 Georgia v
North Macedonia (5.0); Bulgaria v Gibraltar
(7.45). Group D2 Estonia v Malta (5.0). Group
A3 Germany v Hungary (7.45); Italy v England
(7.45). Group B3 Bosnia-Herzegovina v
Montenegro (7.45); Finland v Romania (7.45).

Saturday
Uefa Nations League: Group C2 Northern
Ireland v Kosovo (5.0); Cyprus v Greece (7.45).
Group A2 Czech Republic v Portugal (7.45);
Spain v Switzerland (7.45). Group B1 Armenia v
Ukraine (2.0); Scotland v Republic of Ireland
(7.45). Group B2 Israel v Albania (7.45). Group
B4 Slovenia v Norway (5.0); Serbia v Sweden
(7.45).

FA Women's Super League Arsenal v Tottenham (1.30).

League One Forest Green Rovers v Exeter City (12.30); Barnsley v Charlton Athletic (3.0); Bristol Rovers v Accington Stanley (3.0); Morecambe v Cambridge United (3.0); Peterborough United v Port Vale (3.0); Sheffield Wednesday v Wycombe Wanderers (3.0); Shrewsbury Town v Burton Albion (3.0).

League Two Northampton Town v Stockport County (2.0); Barrow v Leyton Orient (3.0); Bradford City v AFC Wimbledon (3.0); Colchester United v Rochdale (3.0); Crewe Colchester United v Rochdale (3.0); Crewe Alexandra v Mansfield Town (3.0); Doncaster Rovers v Crawley Town (3.0); Grimsby Town v Swindon Town; Hartlepool United v Gillingham (3.0); Newport Country v Carlisle United (3.0); Stevenage v Harrogate Town (3.0); Sutton United v Salford City (3.0); Walsall v Tranmere Rovers (3.0).

Rovers (3.0).

National League Altrincham v Aldershot Town (3.0); Bromley v Oldham (3.0); Dagenham & Redbridge v Barnet (3.0); Eastleigh v FC Halifax Town (3.0); Maidenhead United v Gateshead; Maidstone United v Chesterfield (3.0); Scunthorpe United v Dorking (3.0); Wealdstone v Southend United; Woking v Solihull Moors; Wrexham v Torquay United (3.0); Yeovil v Boreham Wood (3.0); York City v Notts County.

# **OTHER RESULTS**

# **FOOTBALL**

# Scottish League One

AIRDRIFONIANS 5 Jamieson 38 McGill 66 Smith 71, 78 Kouider-Aisser 89 HT: 1-0

ALLOA 2 Stanger 57 Rodden 87 HT: 0-0 MONTROSE 1 Lyons 78 DUNFERMLINE 1 FALKIRK 1

PETERHEAD 2 **KELTY HEARTS 1** O'Keefe 6, 64 Barjonas 50 HT: 1-0

QUEEN OF STH 4 Paton 44, 85 East 77 e 80 Bange 8 HT: 1-0

Benedictus 55 (pen) HT: 0-1

FC EDINBURGH 1 Shanley 90 (pen) Att- 975

2 2 10 2 3 11 1 4 12 Falkirk 9 12 16 Queen of South Clyde Kelty Hearts Peterhead **Scottish League Two** ALBION O FORFAR 2

0 0 2

3 15 12

9 15

16

Dunfermline

Airdrieonians

FC Edinburah

Alloa

CLYDE 0

Morrison 30 Att: 6,670

12 12

# Aitken 52, Hutton 78 HT: 0-0

ANNAN ATHLETIC 2 EAST FIFE 2 Shepherd 12 Hooper 32 (og) Att: 318 Goss 72, 75 HT: 0-2 DUMBARTON 1 BONNYRIGG ROSE 0

Carswell 28 (pen) HT: 1-0 Att: 709 STENHSMUIR 3 ELGIN 3 Miller 45 Hester 16, 70 Brown 51, Crighton 84 HT: 1-1 Dingwall 54 Att: 383 STIRLING 4 Fotheringham 5, 36 Leitch 25, Carrick 42 STRANRAER 1

**W D** 7 0 Dumbarton 0 15 3 12 8 12 21 4 11 Stirlina 2 2 9 9 8 7 11 13 East Fife 0 2 3 3 3 2 11 1 10 -2 10 -4 8 Bonnyrigg Rose Stenhousemuir Annan Athletic 2 9 13 Elgin Forfar 13 14 8 9 9 15 -1 -1 -6 -3 Stranraer 6 9 Albion

# FA Women's Super League

MAN UTD 4 Le Tissier 4, 25 Zelem 14 (pen) Russo 35 HT- 4-0

Scottish Cup first round
BANKS ODEE 4 TURRIFF UNITED 0
BENBURB 4 DUNDONALD BLUEBELL 2
CALEDONIAN BRAVES 6 NEWTON STEWART 1
CARNOUSTIE PANMURE 3 ROTHES 1
CIVIL SERVICE STROLLERS 1 FRASERBURGH 2
CI YDEBANK 1 SPARTANS 3 CLYDEBANK 1

CUMBERNAULD COLTS 0 DALBEATTIE STAR 1 DARVEL IUNIORS 8 TYNECASTLE 0 DEVERONVALE 2 F KII BRIDE 4 EORMARTINE LINITED 3 E STIRLING 1 FORRES MECHANIC GLASGOW UNIV GALA FAIRYDEAN 1 SAUCHIE 4 GRETNA 2008 3 EDINBURGH UNIV HILL OF B HAWTHORN 2 INVERURIE L WORKS 1 JEANFIELD SWIFTS 1 BRECHIN 5 KEITH 1 CUMNOCK 2 KII WINNING RANGERS 4 TRANENT 2 LINITHGOW ROSE 2 BERWICK 1 LOSSIEMOUTH 1 **BUCKIE THISTLE 2** MUSSELBURGH ATH 1NEWTONGRANGE STAR 1 NAIRN COUNTY 1 DRUMCHAPEL UTD 3 STRATHSPEY THISTLE 0 CAMELON 5 WICK ACADEMY 5 LOCHEE UTD 1

# **GOLF**

READING 0

COWDENBEATHO

# Italian Open

Italian Open Scores after three rounds: 203 M Fitzpatrick (Eng) 65, 69, 69; 204 A Rai (Eng) 69, 70, 65; R Mollroy (N Ire) 67, 66, 71. 205 K Kitayama (US) 71, 67, 67; L Herbert (Aus) 70, 67, 68; V Perez (Fr) 70, 66, 69. 206 R MacIntyre (Scot) 70, 69, 67; O Bekker (SA) 68, 70, 68.

# **RUGBY LEAGUE**

Betfred Super League play-off semi-final St Helens 19 Salford 12

# **RUGBY UNION**

20 Sale Bath: Tries Cokanasiga, de Glanville. Cons Francis 2. Pens Francis 2. Sale: Tries O'Flaherty, Van der Merwe, T Curry, Ross. Cons R Du Preez 4. Pens R Du Preez 3.

Harlequins 27 Saracens 30 Harlequins: Tries Murey 2, Marchant. Cons Allan 3. Pens Allan 2. Saracens: Tries Daly, Malins 2, Tompkins. Cons Farrell 2. Pens Farrell, Daly. HT 24-12.

Leicester: Tries Cronin, Nadolo 2, Ashton, Cracknell. Cons: Gopperth 4. Pen Gopperth. Newcastle: Tries Barton, McGuigan, Carreras. Cons B Connon 3. HT 26-14. Leicester 36 Newcastle

### Northmpton 38 L Irish Northmpton: Tries: Augustus, O Sleightholme, Mitchell, Furbank. **Cons** J Grayson 2, Furbank. **Pen** J Grayson 2, Furbank 2. L Irish: Tries Joseph

Hassell-Co

Jackson. HT 10-0.

22

Wasns 8 Bristol 23 Wasps United Street Pen Atkinson.

Bristol: Tries Sheedy, Bradbury. Cons Sheedy
2. Pens Sheedy 2. Drop goal Sheedy, HT 5-10

PWDL F A B Pts

ins 2. Con Englefield. Pen

Sale	2 2	0	0	66	42	2	10
Bristol	2 2	0	0	54	37	1	9
Leicester	2 1	0	1	56	45	2	6
Northmpton	2 1	0	1	60	51	2	6
Harlequins	2 1	0	1	67	61	2	6
L Irish	2 1	0	1	67	52	1	5
Gloucester	1 1	0	0	27	21	1	5
Saracens	11	0	0	30	27	1	5
Exeter	1 1	0	0	24	20	0	4
Bath	2 0	0	2	49	68	1	1
Wasps	2 0	0	2	29	50	1	1
Newcastle	2 0	0	2	52	76	1	1
Worcester	1.0	0	1	14	45	0	0

# David Walsh

For all his indiscretions, Sergio García was Europe's greatest team player and the Ryder Cup won't be the same again in



oursomes is the ultimate and perhaps the only true team sport in golf. Two players taking turns to hit one ball, knowing the consequences for their partner. Some are inspired by the challenge. Others, not so much. Sergio García thrived in foursomes, Tiger Woods perished.

his absence

There is no simple way to explain this, because if you believe García is a team player and say Woods is not, well, you haven't been following the story that has shaken golf's foundations over the past six months. Woods has been an impressive leader of those players who've stuck with the PGA Tour. García chose to join the rival LIV Tour and since then he has become an embarrassment, even to his LIV colleagues.

This is a shame, because it changes how we see him, and, like every other LIV player, he may never again tee it up at the Ryder Cup. The most recent displays of immaturity take their place in a long line. He has done things on the course that would get a common-or-garden amateur kicked out of his local club. For Sergio, excuses were made. Just a passionate and sometimes fiery kid.

He was 19 when first walking into our lives. That was at the 1999 PGA Championship at Medinah, coming from five back during the final round to scare the life out of Woods. How could you not warm to the Spaniard who, finding his ball nestling beside the trunk of a tree, caught up in the roots, closed his eyes and blasted a six-iron onto the green.

After making the shot he bounded

After making the shot he bounded on to the fairway, eager to see where the ball had gone. In the end he lost by one, but it didn't feel so much a defeat as the prelude to multiple major championships. That year at Brookline, still 19, he became the youngest in history to play the Ryder Cup. That weekend he and his partner Jesper Parnevik were Europe's best performers.

Late that year, during the World Match Play at Wentworth, he hit a bad shot, whipped off his right golf shoe and threw it at a hoarding. Ah, he's still young, we said. A year later, he refused to play for his country, who were the World Cup holders, something that bothered his compatriot Miguel Ángel Jiménez. "The important thing in golf is what you have on top of your shoulders," liménez said.

We should have paid more attention to Jiménez. Unhappy with his putting at a World Golf Championship event at Doral in 2007, García spat into the cup before walking off the green.

Then there was the crass remark

Then there was the crass remark about inviting Woods round to dinner and serving him "fried chicken". The stupidity of the comment seemed greater than the contrition of the apology.

At two-yearly intervals the Ryder Cup came round, and for three days, García lit up the Europe team. As fans we wilfully forgot the bad behaviour. Over ten Ryder Cups, he's had 12 partners: Lee Westwood, Luke Donald, Parnevik, Rory McIlroy, John Rahm, Martin Kaymer, Rafa Cabrera Bello, Alex Noren, José María Olazábal, Jiménez, Paul Casey and Nicolas Colsaerts.

There were few that he didn't inspire. To take only one: he was the passionate Spaniard, Donald the epitome of the reserved Englishman, and it seemed like they were born to play together. García has won more matches (25) than any player in Ryder Cup history and accumulated more points (28.5) than anyone. His

numbers will stand for a long time to come.

For all the bad behaviour, there was still enough love for García to make his major championship breakthrough at Augusta in 2017 a special occasion. Eighteen years after he'd hounded Woods down the stretch at Medinah, and at his 74th attempt, García finally got the major victory he needed.

Soon he married his girlfriend Angela Akins, they would call their first child Azalea, after the 13th at Augusta National, and García said he had never been happier. By winning the Masters he got to slip his arms into the Green Jacket while getting the world off his back. The 37-yearold kid could at last be a man.

# García needs to be loved and struggled with the sense that so many didn't want him there

As sports fans, we do this all the time. Confer wisdom on the dull, and greatness on the successful. What makes us believe that a chronically immature adult has what it takes to change his character just because he's won a golf tournament?

Two years after Augusta, García damaged five greens during a tournament in Saudi Arabia, an event he was being handsomely paid to play. "To act like a child out there is not cool, showing us no respect or anybody else. You're 40 years old, so you gotta grow up eventually," Brooks Koepka, his fellow professional, said at the time.

Poor Sergio never had much self-awareness. He apologised for

damaging two greens when the number was five.

According to various sources, Garcia's contract with LIV Golf is worth \$125 million (£107 million). That is a lot of money, and who can blame him for accepting it. But when he got into a heated discussion with European Tour players at the BMW International in Munich three months ago, he couldn't help himself.

Those present described it as a rant during which García told his fellow European players that their tour should have accepted the Saudi millions and they were now playing on the "fifth-ranked tour in the world" and they were all "f\*\*\*ed". "Amazing how fast you can lose respect for someone that you've looked up to all your life," said Bob MacIntyre in a post on social media.

In a *Sunday Times* interview, Eddie Pepperell echoed that view: "I rooted for Sergio, the player. It's hard to root for Sergio, the man." When García came to Wentworth last weekend he was, like all the other LIV players, legally entitled to be in the field. From fellow European Tour players there was no hostility, but neither was there any welcome. The LIV players mostly ate on their own.

More than any of them García needs to be loved, and he struggled with the sense that so many didn't want him there. He shot 76 in the opening round and then didn't turn up for his second round on the Saturday. By then he was back in Texas, getting ready to attend a college football game. It's now difficult to see how Europe's greatest team performer can ever again be part of the team.

He may be \$125 million richer but Sergio García isn't exactly where he'd like to be. And when the Ryder Cup comes around, we'll miss him.

# Hand over £37 and receive your kick in the ballots from Twickenham

Three months ago Peter Farren responded to an invitation from the RFU to become a member of the England First XV club. The cost (£37) wasn't prohibitive and as membership came with a chance for Farren to buy two tickets for England games at Twickenham, he was easily swayed.

He paid his £37 and became a member. He applied for six of England's games during the 2022-23 season. Alas, he was unsuccessful. His name didn't come out of the ballot and he didn't get the chance to purchase tickets for any game. Membership also entitled him to a scarf and a 15 per cent discount in the England store at Twickenham, but that sort of stuff didn't really interest him.

When thinking about whether he would stump up another £37 to continue his First XV membership, he realised that there was a question he should have asked before he had joined.

So this month he wrote to the RFU: "Can you advise how many tickets are allocated to First XV subscribers? And how many of those subscribers there are altogether? I'd just like to get a sense of what one's chances of success in future ballots might be?"

The RFU reply soon landed in his inbox: "The RFU are not obliged to disclose the figures on members and the ballots, the membership is capped each year to try and manage the demand for tickets.

"We can assure it is a fair ballot and all memberships have an equal chance of being allocated tickets – this is made clear when purchasing the membership on our website."

Farren wasn't entirely satisfied and wrote back: "I do appreciate that the RFU are not obliged to disclose the figure on members and ballots, and I have no doubt that the ballot is conducted fairly.

"Nevertheless, in inviting supporters to pay for the chance to purchase a ticket, it does seem highly relevant to know whether one's chances were, say, 1 in 10, or 1 in 1,000. Wouldn't you agree that it's a fair question?"

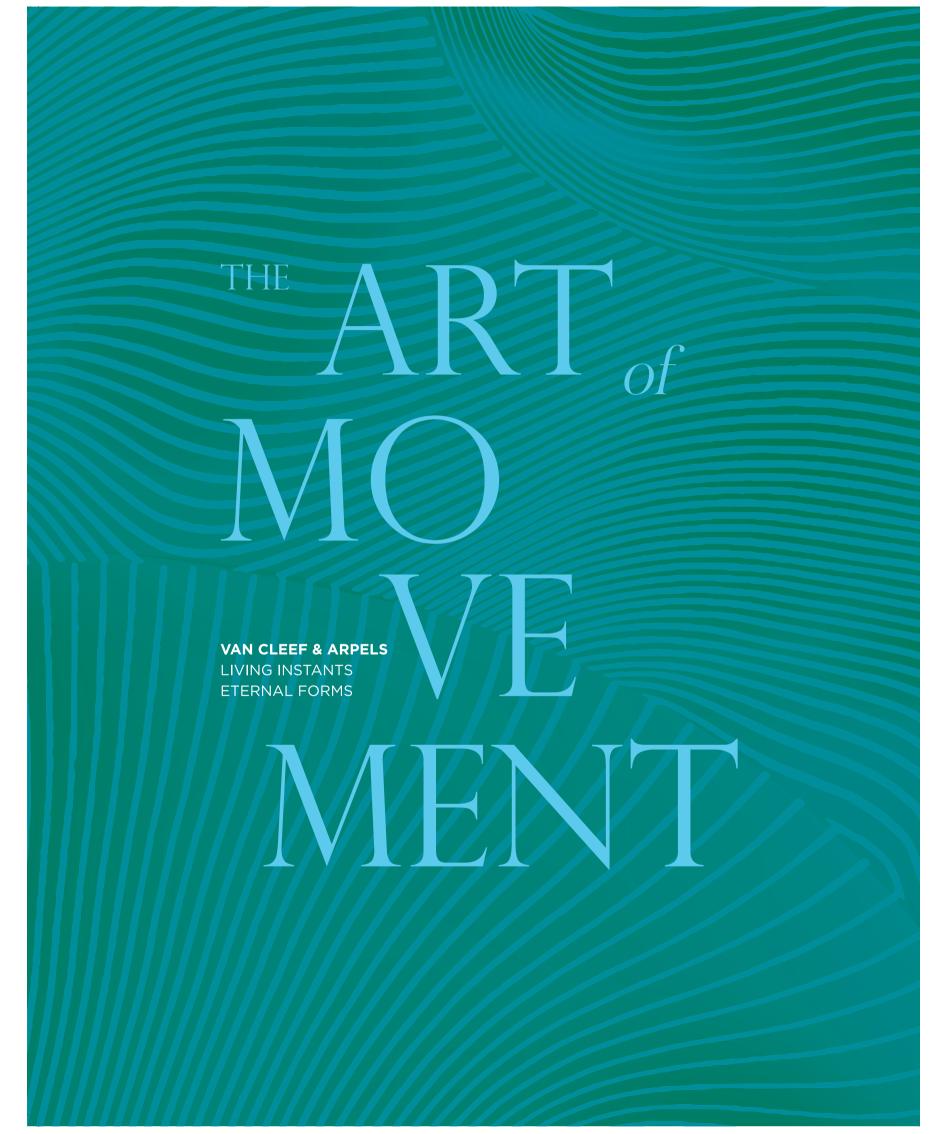
It did seem a fair question, and it drew this response from the RFU: "Every year we have a different amount of members entering their application to join the ballots across multiple matches therefore unfortunately we cannot give you a ratio of the odds."

Armed with this new information, Farren realised that he'd been very foolish to hand over his initial £37.

As for Twickenham, does anyone in the building have any sort of sense of what it means to be transparent?

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**Cover** Graham Norton. Photograph by Pal Hansen/ Contour by Getty Images



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The Sunday Times Bestsellers



#### THINGS WE'VE LEARNT THIS ISSUE



- Winston Churchill very nearly got killed before the Second World War even began. The future prime minister was knocked over by a car while visiting New York in 1931. "There was one moment... of a world aglare, of a man aghast," he remembered. *Books*, *p30*
- As a US attorney, Rudy Giuliani took a hammer to the New York mafia. But his father, Harold, once served time for robbery — and wielded a baseball bat for his mafioso brother-in-law. Books, p28

#### THE CULTURE SHOW

The Sunday Times Culture Show returns next Friday. Our weekly show will guide you to the best of the arts, You'll find it on the Culture section of our website.

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# TIMES RADIO

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**COVER STORY** 



Graham Norton
on the perils of the
modern chat show
— cancel culture,
the trouble finding
right-wing guests
and why he invited
the 'problematic'
JK Rowling

#### JONATHAN DFAN



raham Norton's red sofa is the glittering red carpet of chat shows – how else to describe the weekly galaxy of stars sitting there? He stands alone at the top of the UK chat show league, yet what do we know about the man himself? He is 59. His show has lasted for 30 series. He hosts Eurovision. He has a show on Virgin Radio and a books podcast and has written four well-received novels (one already made into a TV series). Whatever the medium, Norton provides sparkle in an array of dazzling suits.

Is he that buoyant all the time? "I'm not because that would be infuriating," he says with the laugh that punctuates most of his conversation. "But there is more light than dark in me. Why wouldn't there be? My life is f\*\*\*ing lovely."

He is dressed in a T-shirt, having biked to meet for coffee. A deep tan betrays a summer spent in France. He has a little beard. This is Norton at his most relaxed – at the centre of attention rather than facing someone like Adele or Tom Hanks on his couch.

Was his life always this fun? Has he ever felt lost? "Only in my adolescence or twenties, when heartbroken," he

says with a sigh before the fizz returns. "But it is great to be devastated. That's a nice thing about getting older. You look back and go, 'It was worth it.' Carrie Fisher used to talk about the meal and the bill. The good times are the meal. But you know the bill is coming, so you put yourself out there. That's a really good way to look at life."

Norton never met the Queen, but as an Irishman in Britain for nearly 40 years he has found the past week humbling as the nation mourns.

"It's gorgeous to see the way people respond," he says. "It's not rational. But it's genuine."

Norton's life is split in two. For six months he does his chat show in London, while the rest is largely spent in Cork writing novels. His first, *Holding*, was published in 2016 and he is relatively new to this latest career. There are no unread manuscripts from his twenties because he was too busy having fun, working so he could afford to have fun, or hungover.

His new novel, Forever Home, is about a middle-aged woman cut adrift by her partner's children. Like Richard Osman's books, it is cosy crime with wit, pain and heart. "It's like spreading someone's ashes," Norton says of his

**Top billing** Graham Norton and, below, with Bruce Springsteen, Robert De Niro, Sienna Miller and Paul Rudd

66

Am I suddenly the world's moral arbiter who says who can be on TV and who can't? book. "It is upsetting, but it's also funny. I've spread ashes three times and you end up covered in your loved one. Or you eat them. It's hilarious and heartbreaking."

What can we glean from the novel about its author? I mention Killian, a gay character who marries his partner and proclaims that gay marriage is great because it shows that the nation doesn't hate all homosexuals. Congratulations are in order: Norton married his partner, Jonothan, in the spring and I suggest Killian sounds like Norton.

He muses: "At my age there's a nostalgia for when [being gay] was worse. When clubs were down





weird alleys. But that's ridiculous because it was shit. You were beaten up, but it felt special. The two givens were that you weren't getting married or having children. Being clandestine was exciting and fun."

Also in Forever Home everybody hates their family. "So, yes, you are right to assume, 'Graham, do you hate your own family?" he says with a laugh. "I really don't."

Norton insists he does not mine his life for fiction. "Look," he says. "The bad bit about being me is that my name on the cover gets in the way, and a reader thinks, 'Oh, this is what Graham did.' But the bonus of being the bloke off the telly is that I get a book deal."

How fantastically self-aware. When he wrote the novel during the pandemic he wobbled about bringing something light into this dark place. "But it's all stupid and meaningless when the future of the globe is at risk. I'm not writing a state of the nation novel. I tell stories. There were stories at the beginning of the world and there will be stories at its end too. And this is one of them." If he were a guest on his TV show as an author, what would he ask? "Well, the number of novelists we have on is actually minuscule," he says

#### It is really hard to interview someone about a novel — the number of novelists we've had on is minuscule

with a laugh. "It is hard to interview someone about a novel." That ends our book chat.

On to his TV show, which returns this month. Norton is a celebrity, but to his great amusement he is seen as a journalist by many of his guests and success lies in making them comfortable, not wary.

"The most fun I've had on a talk show" was Matt Damon's verdict - and fun is why Norton lands the big names. Over the years there have only been a few he thought were "actively dicks" and he probably means Mickey Rourke look it up on YouTube.

Still, cancel culture makes these testing times for a show that gives celebrities a platform and some may refuse to go on if they must share a sofa with certain people. In 2017 Norton asked Mel Gibson about his fall from grace amid allegations of antisemitism and domestic violence. Gibson gave a "waffling answer" and it pleased nobody. "Our show is riotous; it doesn't have the room for a confessional and a lot of sage nodding."

From Johnny Depp to Arcade Fire, artists get accused of many things, but if they haven't been found guilty it leaves TV producers deciding whether to invite them on or not.

"If I didn't talk to people I do not like, my show might be quite underpopulated," Norton says.

Would he still invite people who have been cancelled? "It all depends. If they really want to come on, we could navigate a way through, but what's interesting is cancel culture is heavy on culture, but not so much on the cancel. Harvey Weinstein is in jail - he's cancelled. But everyone else is working away. They have a quiet six months but keep working."

"And anyway, who am I?" he continues, a little flustered. "Am I suddenly the f\*\*\*ing moral arbiter of the world who says who can be on TV or can't? No. People will be on my show and I'll laugh with them and that will annoy some people, but not having them on seems just as bad."

Last month, for instance, he had JK Rowling on the radio despite the author, as he says, having "problematic" views. Although he has not talked to her about the transgender issue, he imagines that they would disagree. "So I wouldn't have her on to air her

views," he says. "But she has the right to still wang on about her crime novel. The easiest thing would be to not have her on, but that didn't seem right.

'We should talk to people that we disagree with and I would not further any cause by not having her on. She will still sell a gazillion books. Also, I got an insight into her when she talked about enjoying the pub brawl aspect of Twitter. I thought, 'Oh, now I get it you enjoy this."

So how does he pick his guests? Because they all come from the arts, 90 per cent seem left-wing, when the BBC is meant to be impartial. "It's very hard to find a right-wing guest and, if you do, the audience probably don't want to see them," Norton says. "I can't think of any off the top of my head, but we never talk politics. We do talk about gender and race, but that's not from the BBC. It's an internal thing [the show is made by his company] because we want the show to look like the world."

Yet some would say you are pursuing a liberal agenda. "I guess it is a liberal agenda, but reflecting the audience back at themselves doesn't seem wildly liberal unless you only want to see yourself staring back at you from the TV. But it's important, and what's good now is that it is easier to do. There was a time when you would scrabble to find a non-white actor the audience would recognise. That's not the case any more. Whatever the guest has done has been popular enough to get them on the sofa, and you want the world to be reflected."

He puts success down to alchemy, luck and not giving up. And his own route to stardom was slow. Born in Co Cork, he moved to London to study drama, but it took years to be noticed as a stand-up and, eventually, appear on TV (with a stint on Father Ted).

Decades later, he is still learning. During the 1990s and 2000s his comedy was nastier - the fashion was for insults. There's a clip of Norton on the documentary Amy calling Amy Winehouse a "mad person". He admits that his jokes about the singer stopped being funny when it was clear she was struggling with her health.

"If I did a comedy of cruelty-style monologue like that now, the audience would not find it funny," he says. However, if you look at social media today cruelty is still rife. Norton nods. "By moving away from the comedy of cruelty we've ended up with just plain old cruelty. Now there is just abuse. And it isn't even funny."

Spending an hour with the brash, convivial Norton shows why he attracts the A-listers and why other hosts have to make do with Dancing on Ice also-rans. He'll go on for as long as the BBC wants him and he can keep writing novels. He's been at the top for far longer than he expected. And if it collapsed tomorrow? "I won't give a shit!" [

Forever Home is out on September 29

#### **GRAHAM'S GUESTS** THE INSIDE STORY

**Robert De Niro** "He's not a storyteller or very verbal. He's a benign presence. Last time he started telling a story he



went on and on. We were all leaning in, willing it to be amazing... Then he finally went, 'Why am I telling this?' Nobody had an answer. We cut it."

#### Tom Cruise

He is incredible. He comes in and gets introduced to everyone, as happens with every



guest, and he remembers everyone's name. Clearly, that is some sort of mental trick, but it's a very impressive one. That means people backstage love him."

"She makes people on the couch better. I don't know what it is. I think it's because she's interested. So



they'll start telling a story and she'll turn and gaze, and they'll up their game, 'because Dame Helen is actually listening to me, I'd better up my story."

#### **Warren Beatty**

"He asked to meet me the day before, so I went along and he told me all these incredibly scurrilous



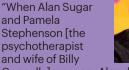
Hollywood stories, although every one began with: 'Of course, I won't tell this story on the show."

lennifer Lawrence "People have to be so careful. Poor old Jennifer Lawrence. Every time she comes on, she just



says something, and for some reason she gets in such trouble and has to apologise to the people of Hawaii. She's being held up to this ridiculous standard."

Alan Sugar "When Alan Sugar and Pamela





Connolly] were on, Alan didn't have much time for Pamela's therapy. I think he called her a 'quack.' How do you rescue that?"

As told in previous interviews

# I ASSUMED MY GRANDPARE

Keira Knightley found fame playing wartime heroines. Now she learns that her family's roles in the conflict (and their tangled love lives) were just as dramatic

#### SUSANNAH BUTTER



t was all fabulously messy," Keira Knightley says, clasping her hands together. The actress is telling me about her grandparents' lives during the Second World War. There were love affairs, illegitimate children – and her grandmother signed the Official Secrets Act.

Knightley, 37, only learnt this while making a Channel 4 documentary, *My Grandparents' War*, out on Thursday. "It's strange," she says. "I've made a career of playing posh English people in wars [in *Atonement* and *The Imitation Game*]. I've read a lot of books about it. But I didn't know about my family – and they were not posh."

Before her role in *Bend It Like Beckham* in 2002 made her a Hollywood star, Knightley had a modest upbringing in Teddington, west London. Her father Will, an actor in *The Bill*, told her playwright mother, Sharman Macdonald, that they could only afford to have a second baby (Keira) if she sold a script.

Knightley (who made more than \$30 million for roles in *Pirates of the Caribbean* and modelling for Chanel) is speaking to me from her elegant kitchen in north London, where she lives with her husband, James Righton, a musician formerly of the band Klaxons, and their daughters, aged three and seven. There's a vase of flowers and a red Smeg fridge behind her.

The documentary focuses on her maternal grandparents. "Most people my age have a photo of their grandparents on a mantelpiece, and it's black-and-white, which makes it seem one step removed," she says. "I assumed they were quite proper, but they were not at all. I didn't expect to be so moved by their story."

Her grandmother Jan died when Knightley was 11 and she never met her



In the family Keira Knightley's maternal grandparents, Jan and Joseph "Mac" Macdonald; at age two with grandmother Jan; starring in The Imitation Game

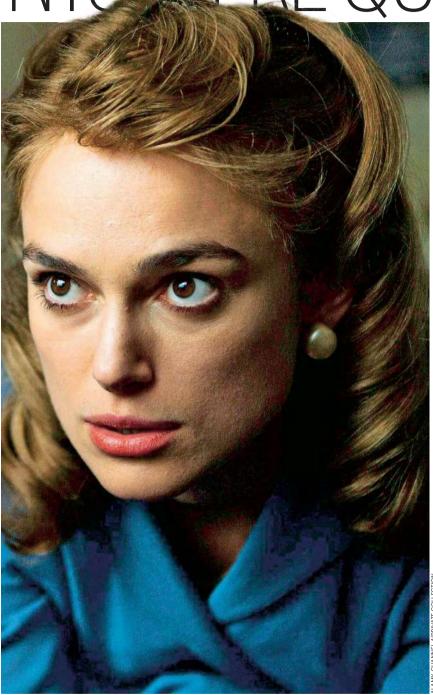
grandfather Joseph "Mac" Macdonald, an engineer who died in 1981.

Jan was a "magnificent" woman, just 5ft 1in and the only person that the young tomboy Keira would allow to brush her hair. When Knightley wants to get something done, she thinks of how Jan would put on her red lipstick and heels and get cracking. Yet she underestimated her grandmother. When she was growing up, Knightley only knew that she was a secretary. "Horrifically, I thought that wasn't impressive. But it is. She had the ability

to organise, which in wartime is so incredibly important. Jesus, I wish I had it. And organisation is what so many women do."

In the summer of 1943 Jan, then 26, went to Greenock near Glasgow to work with the US navy. Thousands of American soldiers were arriving and it was Jan's job to co-ordinate their transport south for the lead up to D-Day. She had to do it in secret so the Germans wouldn't suspect anything – and she kept her word until her death. "What she did at Greenock was part of the

# NTS WERE QUITE PROPER..



unseen work that made what the Allies did to win back Europe possible," Knightley says. She reads a letter of recommendation from her grandmother's boss. "It says she is errorless," Knightley laughs. "I think she should have been running the entire country."

After the war Jan continued to work as a secretary, mostly for doctors, and it was through her that Knightley became aware of the gender pay gap. Her mother told her how, when she was a child, Mac was made redundant and, even though her grandmother

was working full-time, they struggled financially. "I learnt through this that pay discrepancies are such a big deal



Reading my grandfather's letters, I saw a man who was cock of the walk. I'd have liked a drink with him with a real impact on the family." Knightley has campaigned against the gender pay gap, pointing out how wrong it is that she made more money modelling than from her early films, such as the first *Pirates of the Caribbean* – her co-star Johnny Depp's \$10 million pay packet dwarfed her own.

Jan met Mac during a blackout in Port Glasgow in the spring of 1941 when she walked into a lamppost and he came to her assistance with a handkerchief. He was in the Royal Navy, working as a sonar operator listening for U-boats and had recently separated from his first wife. "My grandparents weren't married until the 1960s, so my mum was illegitimate. I think there were illegitimate children on the Knightley side too." Her mother knows her three half-brothers.

"There's a reason why there was a post-World War Two baby boom," Knightley continues. "In a war you cling on to life. If you think you are going to die, you hold on to any bit of the good stuff – the romance, the drinking, the fun – because it might be your last." She enjoyed creating a picture of Mac through his letters, where he reflected on his first doomed marriage, but also made jokes and drawings. "I saw a young man who my grandma always described as cock of the walk. I saw that swagger," she says, miming one of her own. "I would have liked a drink with him. He'd have been a right laugh."

In 1940 Mac sailed on the HMS Wolverine for Norway after Hitler caught Britain off-guard and landed 10,000 Nazi troops there. In 61 days 4,500 British troops were killed or wounded in the Battles of Narvik and Neville Chamberlain was forced to resign. But Mac played a heroic part, helping to save 700 men from another boat.

There was tragedy too – Mac's younger brother Wilf joined the navy at the start of the war. In March 1942 his family got a telegram saying his ship had gone missing off the coast of Indonesia while fighting the Japanese. It was five months before they learnt he was dead. He was 24. "We know what he died for, but that doesn't make your mum feel any better," Knightley says. Jan's brother Andrew, meanwhile, was a prisoner of war in Poland for four years and weighed just seven stone when he was released.

Despite what they went through, Knightley's mother remembers her parents as fun. "It's an extraordinary gift that you go through unbelievable trauma and catastrophe and what you leave to your kid is the spirit of life."

We're interrupted by Knightley's

#### WAR TV SHOWS COMING SOON

#### All Quiet on the Western Front

The 1930 film about the German soldiers' experience of the First World War was the first adaptation of a novel to win an Oscar for best picture. Until now there has only been one remake, in 1979. Daniel Bruhl stars in this brutal story about young men going off to war and soon becoming desperate. October 28, Netflix

#### Una Marson — Our Lost Caribbean Voice

This documentary tells the story of Una Marson, who was born in Jamaica and in the Second World War became the first black woman to be employed by the BBC. She joined the BBC Empire Service, working on a programme called Calling the West Indies, where soldiers would send in messages to their families to be read out loud on the radio. October, BBC2

#### **SAS: Rogue Heroes**

First he brought us post-First World War Birmingham in *Peaky Blinders*; now Steven Knight has adapted Ben Macintyre's bestselling book about how the SAS was formed in the Second World War. It stars Dominic West.

Coming soon, BBC1

#### The New Look

A thriller set in Nazi-occupied Paris starring Juliette Binoche. Coco Chanel's influence is waning and Christian Dior is bringing spirit back to war-scarred France with his designs. Early 2023, Apple TV

Waitrose order arriving. She ends by saying that *My Grandparents' War* made her reflect on the present war in Ukraine. "Jan and Mac are amazing to me because they are my family, but they were normal people being asked to make a sacrifice. As we go around in our little bubbles, it's important to remember it can happen again, and seeing the humanity in others is important."

My Grandparents' War is on Channel 4 on Thursday at 9pm

From JRR Tolkien to Joe Wicks, via Delia Smith — what the bestsellers reveal about the Queen's 70-year reign. By Dominic Sandbrook

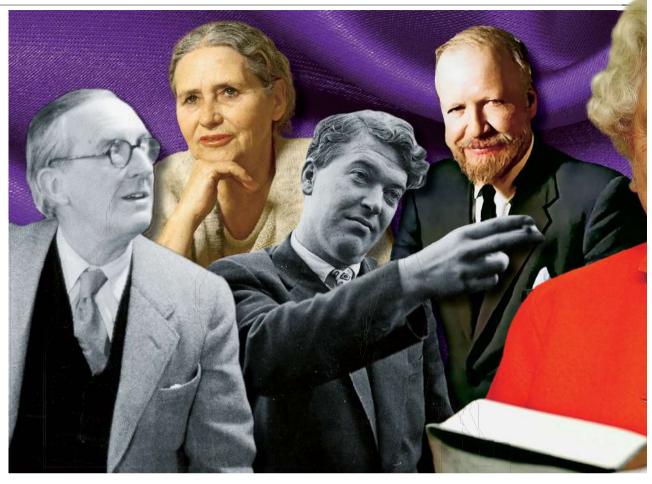
ueen Elizabeth II was not, as far as we know, a great reader. Indeed, her most famous encounter with the world of letters, which came when she was still a teenager, was distinctly inauspicious. Britain was still in the grip of the Second World War, and her parents had invited TS Eliot, no less, to Buckingham Palace. It was not a roaring success.

"We had this rather lugubrious man in a suit, and he read a poem. I think it was called *The Desert*," her mother later recalled. "And first the girls got the giggles and then I did and then even the King... I'm afraid we all giggled. Such a gloomy man, looked as though he worked in a bank, and we didn't understand a word."

Many, even most of the future queen's subjects, would probably have endorsed her mother's verdict. Yet the British people in the new Elizabethan age were not philistines. Between 1952 and 2022 they bought and read more books than any generation before them. And to scan the bestseller lists midway through her reign is to gaze through a remarkable window into the ambitions and anxieties of recent history.

Here, for example, are Catherine Cookson and James Herriot, Frederick Forsyth and Alistair MacLean. Here is Grange Hill Rules OK?, with 235,000 sales in 1980, and The Illustrated Lark Rise to Candleford, with more than 200,000 sales three years later. Here are Shirley Conran's Lace and Jeffrey Archer's The Prodigal Daughter, with more than a million sales between them. Here are Rothmans Football Yearbook, The Official Sloane Ranger Handbook, The F-Plan Diet and The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 1334. The last, at least, is still in print. But who, these days, remembers James Herbert? Who remembers Arthur Hailey? Who still reads Tom Sharpe?

So what were the defining books of the Queen's reign? Some candidates pick themselves. Of the books published in the immediate aftermath of her accession, the most influential on the world's imagination was surely JRR Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*. The best? Hard, I think, to look past William



# THE BOOKS THAT

**Royal reads** Queen Elizabeth II and the authors JRR Tolkien, Doris Lessing, Kingsley Amis, William Golding, Delia Smith, Monica Ali and Joe Wicks

Golding's *Lord of the Flies*, indelibly stamped by the horrors of the Second World War.

Yet perhaps the best glimpse of life in the early Fifties, and certainly the funniest, comes in Kingsley Amis's debut, *Lucky Jim*, which recounts the misadventures of a young history lecturer at a redbrick university. Published in 1954, it might seem irredeemably tweedy today, with its smoke-wreathed pubs, high-minded folk singers, beret-wearing artists and tight-sweatered bluestockings.

At the time *Lucky Jim*'s sheer irreverence, as well as its unrepentant masculine hedonism, caught the mood of a



Sex was one of the great themes of British letters in this period

Britain emerging from the rigours of austerity. Evelyn Waugh thought it symptomatic of a "new wave of philistinism". Somerset Maugham, more bluntly, thought its grammar-schooleducated hero and his contemporaries were "scum". "Some will take to drink, some to crime, and go to prison," Maugham wrote. "Others will become schoolmasters and form the young, or journalists and mould public opinion. A few will go into Parliament, become Cabinet Ministers, and rule the country. I look on myself as fortunate that I shall not live to see it."

As the Fifties give way to the Sixties, you find more and more women's names in the books pages, pushing aside the chaps in their leather-elbowed jackets. The awakening of young women to full self-consciousness, often through sex, was one of the great themes of British letters in this period – for instance in the novels of the Nobel laureate Doris Lessing, who had published her first book in 1950 and enjoyed her great breakthrough with *The Golden Notebook* 12 years later. Yet if there's one portrait of a woman's life in the early Sixties that I always find remarkably

affecting, it's the picture of Sylvia Calvert in Angus Wilson's book *Late Call*, which came out in 1964. (Yes, yes, another chap, I know...)

A retired hotel manageress, Sylvia is an elderly lower-middle-class woman, the kind of person you never normally find in fiction. She has moved to a new town to live with her widowed son, which allows Wilson to sketch a brilliantly savage portrait of the newly affluent suburbs.

To Sylvia it seems a frighteningly incomprehensible world with its "crowds of children on bicycles and kidicars and tricycles, its ton-up boys and girls in jeans... its prams and arcades, and queues of teenagers for the Mecca, and churches like halls, and ten pin she didn't understand, and murals she could make nothing of". Not surprisingly she takes refuge in books. Her favourites? The romantic lives of the queens of old, Mary, Queen of Scots and Good Queen Bess.

By this point talk of the new Elizabethans had already begun to fade. Britain was a power in decline, the last fragments of empire rapidly falling away. The conquest of Everest, news of which



# DEFINE AN AGE

reached London on the morning of the coronation, seemed an ever more distant memory.

The journalist who had broken the story, James Morris of *The Times*, had already begun the journey to becoming Jan Morris, perhaps the best-known figure to have had gender reassignment surgery. And at a time when few people wanted to discuss Britain's retreat from empire, she began work on one of the great masterpieces of historical narrative, *Pax Britannica*, published between 1968 and 1978. Nothing better captures the mingled fascination, nostalgia, pride and horror with which Elizabeth's people came to view their imperial adventures.

Did Britain decline in status during the Queen's reign? Indubitably. Did people care about it? Some did. It's impossible to read John le Carré's masterpiece *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*, published in 1974, without noticing the ubiquitous shabbiness and sleaziness, the broken lifts and peeling paint.

"Poor loves," remarks one of George Smiley's colleagues as he hunts for the communist mole inside MI6. "Trained to Empire, trained to rule the waves. All gone. All taken away." And when the mole is finally unmasked, his motives perfectly capture the sense of decay. The mole was "an ambitious man", le Carré tells us, "born to the big canvas, brought up to rule, divide and conquer". However, he was driven to betrayal by the reality of modern Britain, "a poor island with scarcely a voice

Did most people care, though? The answer is obvious. No. One explanation is that the Queen herself had presided over a magnificent conjuring trick, the transformation from overbearing empire to voluntary commonwealth. Yet a more obvious explanation is that her subjects were simply too busy

that would carry across the water".

#### FIVE BOOKS ABOUT THE QUEEN



The Queen: A Biography of Elizabeth II by Ben Pimlott

The definitive biography by an excellent historian; much cannibalised by lesser writers, but still the best.

**Queen of the World by Robert Hardman**A skilfully observed

study of the monarch on the world stage, rich in anecdotes and insights.



Majesty by Robert Lacey Groundbreaking when it

was published in 1977, this was the first really serious attempt to look behind the royal curtain.

#### **The Uncommon Reader by Alan Bennett**Amusing fantasy about

Amusing fantasy about the Queen reading the sorts of books reviewed in *The Guardian*.

#### The Queen and I



by Sue Townsend A republican imagines what would happen if

the Queen were forced to live in Leicester.

enjoying the fruits of affluence. Britain was a richer, more individualistic society than it had ever been — a land of cookers and washing machines, cars and holidays. And the book that summed that up? The single most influential title written by a woman during the Queen's reign, beside which the collected works of Angela Carter, Jeanette Winterson and Zadie Smith fade into insignificance: *Delia Smith's Complete Cookery Course*.

An affluent nation, then, as well as a nostalgic, grumpy and querulous one. Yet if there's another change that defined the Queen's reign, it's the transformation in the ethnic make-up of the British. Which book best sums that up? How about a debut novel from a young woman whose Bangladeshi father had met her white mother in the mid-1960s at a dance in her native Bolton?

prize after its publication in 2003, Monica Ali's *Brick Lane* was a thoroughly modern book, set in an inner-city melting pot of urban freedoms and religious traditions, and a very old-fashioned story of a young woman's awakening. Even now its final lines carry a powerful charge as the heroine finally summons the courage to step on to an ice rink and emulate her skating heroes. "You can't skate in a sari," she says. "This is England," replies her friend. "You can do whatever you like."

Shortlisted for the Booker

And what of the past few years? What books will future historians use to peer into the anxious world of Britain in the early 21st century, the final years of the new Elizabethan age? The novels of Salman Rushdie, Hilary Mantel or Bernardine Evaristo? My suspicion is they won't look at any of them – although I doubt they will overlook Harry Potter.

But as I scan the bestseller lists, two names leap out. One, inevitably, is Jamie Oliver, a populist writer for a populist age. The titles alone speak volumes about the pressures of life here during the Queen's final years: Jamie's 30-Minute Meals, Jamie's 15-Minute Meals, Jamie's Money Saving Meals, Jamie: Keep Cooking and Carry On...

And the other? Well, once you've cooked all those 30-minute meals, an image-conscious society demands you do something to shed the pounds. Joe Wicks, who received an MBE in the Queen's final birthday honours list this year, might seem an odd choice on which to end. Yet his recipe-and-workout books have left even St Delia in the shade. And as a boy from a council estate who owes his success to his Instagram and YouTube videos, he could scarcely be a more emblematic figure.

So it is, then, that in 70 years under Elizabeth II we have travelled from Amis and Golding to Joe and Jamie. Progress or decline? Perhaps we should let our descendants be the judge.



#### **CLASSICAL**

# As Master of the Queen's Music, Judith Weir had the monarch's ear. She talks to *Liam Kelly* about the royal musical taste

hink of Elizabeth II and the word
"musical" is unlikely to be near
the top of your mind. She was,
however, "more of a musical
person than is currently generally supposed", says Judith Weir,
the first woman to serve as Master of the
Queen's Music, a centuries-old post akin
to the poet laureate that was created by
Charles I.

The Queen learnt to play piano as a girl, performing concerts with her family, and was often keen to talk with musicians about stage fright and supporting military bands. "I think to her it was a great source of happy memories," Weir says.

For eight years Weir, 68, was the Queen's musical confidante and perhaps the person the Queen most regularly discussed music with. She became Master of the King's Music on Charles's accession.

While she says there is no "officially laid-down" job description, the master is expected to write music for royal and national occasions and champion her art form. Weir was appointed for a decade in 2014, although it had previously been a lifetime post, and is paid £15,000 a year.

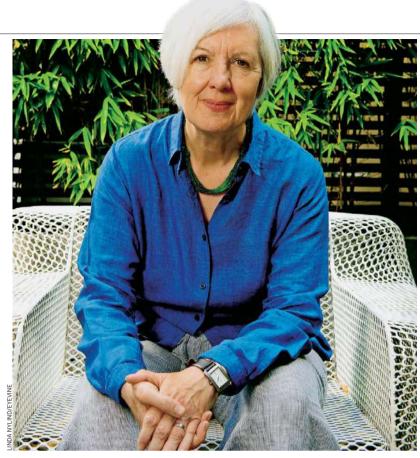
A new work by Weir, an Ivor Novello award-winning classical composer, is expected to be played for the first time at Westminster Abbey tomorrow — with billions listening.

At audiences with award winners the Queen would swap tales about public performance and nerves. "She took a genuine interest in what musicians do," Weir says. "I was at one of these audiences, and she conversed with them in a very sympathetic way that made you think she understood what it was like, as she did, to get on to a platform in front of thousands of people and perform in that moment and get it right."

In her meetings with the Queen (she saw her three times in the past year) Weir discovered the tastes of one of the world's most inscrutable people, and says she felt "very close to the kind of music that was around her". Her Majesty had "a really good ear" for military bands. The regimental march *Milanollo*, paraded by the Coldstream Guards, was a favoured piece.

In fact, she was such a fan of military bands that there was a quiet word from the Palace when "there may have been moves to get rid of one or another of them", Weir says. "[It is] very largely thanks to her they are in position."

A devout Christian who took her role as supreme governor of the Church of England seriously, the Queen loved



# THE QUEEN'S COMPOSER

**In tune** Judith Weir. Below: with the Queen and Peter Maxwell Davies

hymns and choral music. Favourites included *Praise*, *My Soul*, *the King of Heaven* and *The Lord Is My Shepherd*. "She took a close interest in the nuts and bolts of how things were going in this or that cathedral," Weir says. "That is the kind of music I think of when I think about her."

She employed a piper to the sovereign, an official position that goes back to Queen Victoria in 1843, a role most recently filled by Paul Burns of the



Royal Regiment of Scotland. "The bagpiper would play, so I'm told, at 9am, and for the rest of the day he would be around and do other things," Weir says. Burns played as the Queen's coffin left her beloved Balmoral estate last Sunday, and will do so at the funeral tomorrow.

Other favourite pieces of music included *The White Cliffs of Dover* by Vera Lynn, and George Formby's *Leaning on a Lamppost*. "Like all of us, she must have loved the music of her youth," Weir says.

Contemporary favourites cited by the Queen's close friends for a 2016 Radio 2 documentary were *Oklahoma!* by Howard Keel and *Sing*, the Diamond Jubilee commemoration tune by Gary Barlow and the Commonwealth Band, featuring the Military Wives choir.

Weir was disappointed with the BBC's decision to cancel the Last Night of the Proms last weekend. It was, she says, a "missed opportunity" since "it could have been a wonderful national occasion". Wagner, Sibelius and Verdi were on the bill, as well as staples such as Pomp and Circumstance, Land of Hope and Glory and Rule, Britannia!. "The timing was almost perfect, wasn't it?"

#### ELIZABETH'S CULTURAL LOVES

#### Ali G

Did the Queen really admire the leader of Da West Staines Massiv? Prince William and Prince Harry tell a story about how the Queen Mother walked in on them watching Da Ali G Show and was inspired to stand up in the dining room and say: "Darling, lunch was marvellous — respec," clicking her fingers. Prince William said the Queen was amused. She was a skilled mimic, doing a convincing Norfolk accent and mastering impressions of René from the sitcom 'Allo' Allo! and Tony Benn.

#### **Scottish reels**

The clearest insight into who the Queen really liked was when she went on holiday on the royal yacht. It was also the only time she wore casual trousers. Her private secretary Mary Francis said that every evening after dinner there would be a dance to Scottish reels. The Queen would give any novices dancing lessons, and her cousin Lady Elizabeth Anson described her as "a fantastic dancer, with great rhythm".

#### **Police procedurals**

During lockdown at Windsor Castle the plot twists of *Line of Duty* provided welcome escapism for the Queen. She enjoyed discussing each episode with her aide Vice-Admiral Sir Tony Johnstone-Burt. The Queen has form with crime drama. Before streaming, she used to request DVDs of her favourite programmes to watch during her summer break at Balmoral, and *The Bill* was on the list. *Doctor Who* was sent up too — she watched it with the young Charles.

#### **Ballet**

When Lord Hall was chief executive of the Royal Opera House, from 2001-13, the Queen, he says, was a regular at the ballet, accompanied by Princess Margaret or Prince Philip. Often Hall convinced her to sit in the grand tier rather than in the royal box because there was a better view. He says she was always animated, "discussing what was going on with Philip and commenting on the dancers". She often made secret trips to the West End with her husband — in 2006 they sneaked into Billy Elliot at the Victoria Palace Theatre.

Susannah Butter

# HOWITALLWENT WRONG FOR HIRST

The artist who taught Britain to adore contemporary art will next month burn 4,851 of his paintings worth £10m. It's a sorry stunt from a man slithering to the bottom in a slow artistic decline

#### WALDEMAR JANUSZCZAK



was thinking the other day about an art book I want to write. Its title would be: *Art – How It All Turned to Shit*. Every word in the book would be true. Playing a central role in the tragedy would be Damien Hirst.

Among art critics working today, I do not believe Hirst has a more loyal admirer than me. I have followed his artistic progress ever since he photographed himself as a teenager in a mortuary smiling next to a corpse. I've interviewed him frequently, heaped praise on him and defended him stoutly when he went too far. I've done all this because – and this really marks me out – I believe in him. Fundamentally I believe he has inside him what only true artists have inside them.

But because I have been with him every step of the way, I also know how it all went wrong, and why. It's a telling story. It says a lot about him, yes, but it says a lot more about the jealous, smallminded, play-acting entity that is the contemporary art world. If I could put a stake through its heart, I would.

In a couple of weeks, to coincide with the opening of the Frieze art fair, we are going to witness Hirst's latest art gimmick. In an effort to promote his NFTs, he is burning thousands of his pictures, valued at about £10 million. The television cameras and headline writers will be there. My faith in him will receive another clout.

If you don't know what NFTs are, you're lucky. Non-fungible tokens were invented by the Devil to lure fools into the art world and persuade them to spend their money on nothing. More on them in a moment. First I think we should remember how we got here because it is instructive. So let me wipe away a tear and recall the good days of Damien Hirst – the artist who changed everything.

The art world today is a completely different creature from the art world of four decades ago, when Hirst began his cursed journey. Today millions flock to Tate Modern. The Turner prize is a must-opine event. The prices for modern art have reached cosmic levels. But all this is new. Only recently has Britain learnt to adore contemporary art. For most of the 20th century it hated it, mocked it, avoided it, considered it worthless. Until Hirst arrived.

In the 1980s, before he exploded into our consciousness, art was a minority interest enjoyed by a modest number of monkish cult members. If you put up a sign outside a gallery saying "Contemporary art this way", the queue would have stretched in the opposite direction.

As a fledgling art critic starting out on the road to today, I remember the ceaseless moaning that could still be heard about the "Tate bricks" affair, the purchase of Carl Andre's *Equivalent VIII* by the Tate Gallery in 1972 for £2,297. Even ten years later, the thought of wasting "all that taxpayer's

money" on "a pile of bricks" was still driving people apoplectic. Enter Hirst.

In 1988 he gathered together a gang of classmates from Goldsmiths, took over a warehouse in Docklands and unleashed himself and a fresh artistic spirit in a show he called *Freeze*. Wild, varied, energetic and rabidly contemporary, *Freeze* was a handful of smelling salts shoved up the nose of the traditional British art world. Suddenly everybody woke up.

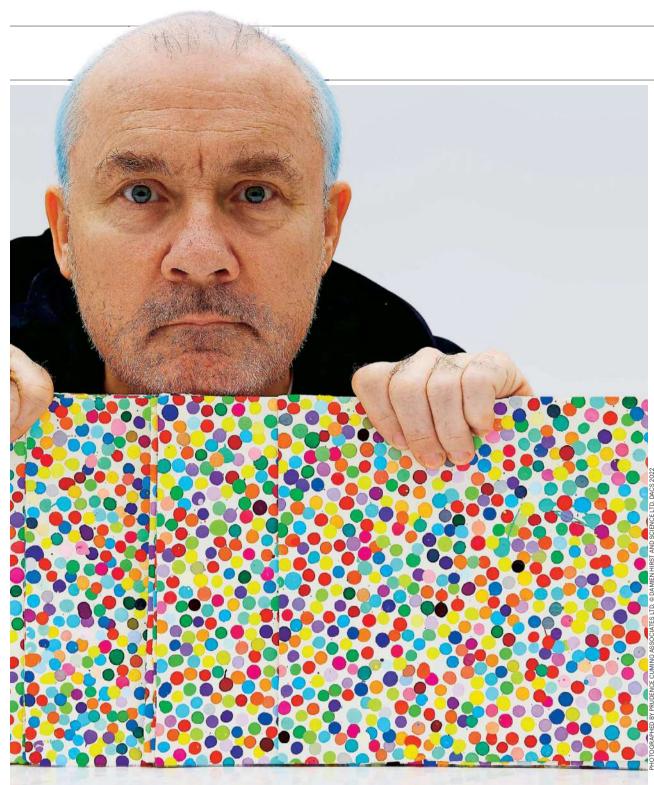
The movement launched by the show – the Young British Artists – wasn't really a movement. It was more of an attitude, a punkish disregard for the past allied to a noisy creative energy that never settled into a habit. The YBAs made paintings, sculptures, films, photos, installations – whatever it took. They were young, they were free, kept their teeth nice and clean.

At their centre, Hirst began rolling out a succession of the most inventive

and impactful art works I had seen. At the Venice Biennale of 1993 he exhibited *Mother and Child (Divided)*, a full-size cow and her calf cut in half and suspended in formaldehyde inside four looming glass boxes. It was the first time I had walked through the middle of a cow. I can still remember the excitement today.

Before that there was, of course, the shark, a real-life monster of the seas floating silently and immovably in the Saatchi Gallery, giving you *Jaws*-style goose bumps. And before the shark there was the scary flies piece, in which an endless stream of flies hatched in a rotting cow's head were electrocuted by a neon zapper.

The ideas in which he was rubbing our noses with these dramatic artworks – death, mortality, sex, religion



– had an old master bigness to them, but the way they were being explored could not have felt more new. Auschwitz moods. Minimalist set-ups. In my book Hirst did enough in his first five years of action to warrant a permanent seat in the pantheon of great British artists. Unfortunately it was also about now that the problems started.

Britain finally had an artist, and an art movement, of whom the whole world was taking notice. Modern art had long-jumped from page 27 in the newspapers to page 1. But instead of celebrating this surge in interest, the monks of the British art world seemed to find it internationally embarrassing.

People always imagine that the art establishment was immensely supportive of Hirst. That it helped to make him. Gave him shows. Bought his work. It didn't. When I was head of arts at Channel 4 and put the Turner prize on television I was made continuously aware of how little keenness there was for him in the upper echelons. He was too flashy, they said. Too noisy. He lacked the art world's favourite quality: "rigour". They wanted grey graphs worked out with a ruler. He was giving them pickled sheep.

The process of not welcoming him, not buying him, not appreciating him, pushed him ever further away from the art establishment and ever deeper into the commercial art world. To make it all worse, he was wilful and cussed by nature. He turned down gongs and a knighthood. He turned down offers to show at the Venice Biennale. He refused to join the Royal Academy. The cosy relationship that other artists of his heft

**Dotty** Damien Hirst has entered the NFT business with The Currency

enjoyed with the establishment was simply not for him. They saw him as Jack the Lad. He saw himself as Dick Turpin.

Having single-handedly sparked a new national interest in contemporary art – an interest that led directly to the opening of Tate Modern in 2000 – but with zero affection being directed at him by the art establishment, Hirst decided to throw in his lot with

NFTs were invented by the Devil

Mammon and play games with rich people instead: to milk the system for all it was worth. By 2009 he'd accumulated a fortune estimated at £235 million by *The Sunday Times* Rich List. And was slithering to the bottom in a slow artistic decline.

It was slow because he was too real an artist, too full of ideas, to turn bad overnight. For the past 20 or so years he has usually managed to throw something worthwhile into the expensive dross. The diamond skull he tried to sell in 2007 for £50 million was a piece of money-crazed kitsch, but boy did it pack a visual punch.

One of his more reliable talents is as an instinctive designer with an eye for colour. Having realised early on that all people really want is something nice to hang on the wall, he has kept up a seemingly endless flow of dot pictures.

I used to own one of the early ones, bought for a couple of grand, a minimalist arrangement of dots in a fetching triangle. Hand on heart, it was lovely to contemplate and gave me more pleasure than anything else on my walls. Alas, having realised that people love dots, Hirst has set about saturating the market. Which brings me to the NFTs he is going to burn in Frieze week.

Non-fungible tokens are a grotesque invention of the Covid era when people spent too much time in front of their computers, losing their grasp of reality. When you buy an NFT you buy ownership of something — but not the thing itself. It's like walking into a shop and buying the words "a pint of milk" rather than an actual pint of milk. You own the ownership. But nothing else.

Hirst's first NFT collection, called *The Currency*, consists of 10,000 dot paintings made with enamel paint on handmade paper. Where my dots were carefully separated, these new ones are crowded together in boisterous jumbles. Each sheet has a hologram of the artist on it as well as a stamp and signature.

A year ago he announced that he was putting all 10,000 dot pictures up for sale on the internet at \$2,000 a pop, and that the buyers would have the choice of owning the physical artwork or the NFT. He sold the lot - 5,149 decided to keep the artwork, 4,851 thought they would rather have the NFT. Those are the ones whose dot paintings he is burning - 4,851 victims of the NFT craze.

I began this moan by insisting that I believe in Damien Hirst as an artist and consider myself to be one of his staunchest defenders. So allow me a moment's hesitation while I consider the possibility that what he is actually doing here is testing the boundary between the real and the unreal, and using NFTs to launch a philosophical investigation of the nature of art.

OK, I've considered it. It's clearly balls. Dick Turpin rides again. 

□

The Currency, Newport Street Gallery, London SE11, from Thu to Oct 30

#### TELEVISION

We've never seen anything like this — it's like seeing all the works of Shakespeare in your living room



The Queen All channels

A Tribute to Her Majesty the Queen BBC1, Fri

**Britain After the Queen** Channel 4, Mon

**The Great British Bake Off** Channel 4. Tue

To quote Andrew Marr, on Andrew Neil's show about the Queen on Monday, I am "nobody's idea of a monarchist". Royal events, even serious ones, often strike me as flimsy, ephemeral and comically kitsch – how can anyone believe in this?

But television during the royal mourning period has been, quite simply, extraordinary. It has been like having all the characters from all the works of Shakespeare delivered straight into your sitting room in full costume, grasping spears and trumpets, narrated by Huw Edwards. It is the very ancient meets the very modern, and it is like nothing I have ever seen.

Turn on the television at any moment of the day and you are beckoned into a high-wire ballet of dronework, helicopters and hundreds of anchors, particularly on the BBC. At one point I spotted a man dressed like Rob Roy, helping Camilla out of a private jet. No matter how mundane the footage, and most of it is very ordinary mostly handshaking and, well, never has a single royal vehicle been filmed so much - the coverage presses forward like a pitiless wall of neurotic reverence and pure royal PR.

Anchors always conform to exactly the same queenly language: senses are always "palpable"; respect is always "abiding"; remembrances



# This was the reality show to end all reality shows—one man, filmed 24/7 at the height of personal crisis'

are always "respectful". Much thought has been given to providing a framework in which everyone will never find themselves remotely in danger of providing a true reaction or genuine feeling or real emotion, rendering most people interviewed speechless – all one man in Northern Ireland could say, having been lined up for an interview since dawn, was that Charles was now very good at the "king thing". It's quite a feat, like watching the climax of some teetering David Attenborough masterpiece in which a vast colony of ants strains every

prickling sinew to manoeuvre a single leaf to the top of a 300ft tree.

There is no time, of course, to credit every last insect who, for example, was the Scottish presenter during the long walk up to the top of the Royal Mile? No one said while I was watching. But after a while I noticed: they were actively not naming anyone. There was no going back to the THE studio, no fussy **CRITICS** reminding. All coverage on the BBC was pared back

and shrouded in black.

There were no ticker tapes along the bottom of the screen, no credits. Are credits disrespectful? I guess they are now. The effect was kabukilike: all sense of the individual was clinically stripped from the coverage, leaving the focus on the dead Queen.

There was, of course, one named individual. At the time of writing, it feels as if we have been watching the King's car for 96 hours straight. He went from Buckingham Palace to St James's Palace and back again,

#### Ready for his close-up?

All eyes were on King Charles

then up to Northolt and to Edinburgh and Northern Ireland. This was the reality show to end all reality shows: one man, filmed 24/7 at the height of personal crisis, with two billion eyes boring into his back, as if he were taking part in a very slow, OJ-style car chase.

I often think of the monarch's role as a custodian of the obscure, the hilarious and the fetishistic. The Stone of Scone, for example, the lump of sandstone that will be

#### RADIO & PODCASTS

transported to London for the coronation. As sovereign, you must painstakingly bother about each tabard, each ceremonial bow, each meaningful piece of footwear: the Queen knew everything. The feathers alone ("swan's feathers... eagle's feathers...") can fill hours of commentary. Will Charles enjoy this detail?

You watch the cameras lingering on the new King's ever changing features as he walks through yet another cathedral, trying, rookie-like, to nod and smile at almost every person in the congregation. The Queen knew the power of television and was the first televised monarch. She was iron in her embrace of it. Will King Charles be as good as she was?

TV has not always been kind to Charles. It is a medium that he feels is largely beneath him, or at least he doesn't trust it, and it mocks his weaknesses in return. While the Oueen possessed an actor's ability to zone out of the situation – she "led from the eyes", the actress Adjoah Andoh said on Neil's programme – you can see that he is not always aware that he is being watched. His eyes slide. In the Queen's otherwise frictionless obituary, Charles just let the end of sentences drift off as a way of keeping people at a distance. Occasionally the mask slips; there is a flash of imperial anger, as there was when he snarled at the footman during the accession.

It is strange watching this florid, querulous figure as he makes his way from event to event, obviously having spent what little time he has away from the cameras in floods of tears. He is still human – just – liable to well up at almost anything, even a few bars of the national anthem.

On Neil's Channel 4 show the panellists were quick to defend the new King, and debated the "pen moment". Charles was entitled to worry about the ink, said one man – it was going to go over! Was it? After hours of impersonal sycophancy, it was a relief to hear people talking normally on television again.

Neil is especially good at this sort of thing, firing laser-sharp questions: "Is the monarchy safe in the hands of King Charles?" "It depends on him," Joan Bakewell said. Sitting in a small, dumpy chair like a hotel concierge on the Channel 4 set, which looked as if it had stolen all its furniture from the Savoy, Neil occasionally flashed a newly veneered set of teeth, while guests were quietly rotated in to discuss matters of state. There were no namechecks and, again, no ads; watching the coverage, cleansed, you thought, couldn't this happen every week?

I had been planning to review Frozen Planet, but I think I'll save it for when I can give it the space it deserves. Why, though, was this show still broadcast when the Proms were not? Why does Channel 4 feel it has to cancel Who Dares Wins but the BBC still keeps EastEnders? Why does Strictly go but Bake Off stays? They are the same programme. I guess there was nothing that anyone could have done to persuade Channel 4 to put off its biggest show.

The Great British Bake
Off is, after all, the sort of thing
the Queen might have
watched. She would have
looked at the new series in
amusement, wondering who
chose those awful brown
aprons that make the
contestants look like vets.
What, pray, is a "hero
flavour"? And who dreamt up
the challenge: constructing
"a stunning 3D replica of your
own home in cake"? As Bake
Off goes, it was great start.

Janusz, a gay Pole who is this year's precise European, decided to recreate the "sad block of flats" in which his grandmother lived. If there was a theme to anything this year, it was foreigners escaping harsh and/or sad regimes. As well as Janusz there was Abdul, a Saudi Arabian who liked to "Lindy hop with his girlfriend" but hadn't seen his family for three years. I had hoped that the show's greatest asset, Prue Leith, would join them, having escaped merciless mocking from the cast for being flirty and drunk, but nearly every single contestant decided to load their cake with alcohol in the hope of getting a good review. Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas, alarmingly unrecognisable after losing half his bodyweight, still managed to rib Paul Hollywood: "When was the last time you baked, Paul? In the Seventies?" week," he protested.

## His Majesty's views

A listener's guide to the new King — climate crisis to hedgerows

#### PATRICIA NICOL



We know far more about King Charles III's passions and opinions than any new monarch in history.

In hundreds of hours of broadcast interviews over decades, he has sometimes complained but also valiantly tried to explain his passions and concern for the environment. For many years, as he told the author Margaret Atwood on Radio 4's Today in December 2020, he was dismissed as "completely dotty". What we cannot vet know is what sort of constitutional monarch he will be. Will he really be able to stifle his opinions on climate change? Should he? Here is our audio briefing on the new King.

#### What to expect

If you have just emerged from 30 years in the wilderness and need a biographical primer, Born to Rule: When Charles Is King is an NBC podcast made to coincide with the Platinum Jubilee, but being updated daily. The presenter is the British journalist Keir Simmons. Aimed at a mainly American audience, it is not forelock-tugging.

Emily Maitlis,
Jon Sopel and Lewis
Goodall's new podcast
The News Agents has an
episode called The King's
Challenge (September 10) that
is worth a listen for the
predictions of historian Simon
Schama, former Supreme
Court judge Jonathan
Sumption, historian Dan
Snow, journalist Ash Sarkar
and former cabinet secretary
Gus O'Donnell on Charles as a
continuity candidate.

Snow thinks that women have made better constitutional monarchs, Schama talks optimistically about Charles's relations with the Commonwealth, and Sumption predicts that the King will keep his counsel

when in office. But what will he do on the environment, wonder the hosts.

Friday's Story of our times podcast had the royal editor of The Sunday Times, Roya Nikkhah, assessing Charles's start, the public's response, and what his reign might bring. Lester Holloway, the editor of The Voice, spoke of Charles's standing among black communities in Britain and the Commonwealth. (Holloway has had to defend his invitation to Charles to guest-edit the paper's 40th anniversary edition.)

#### In his own words

In 2010 Charles co-wrote an environmental treatise, Harmony: A New Way of Looking at Our World. He narrates the audiobook. If you do not have 11 hours to commit to that, his reading of the children's version lasts just 14 minutes. Our place in the environment was also at the heart of his gentle conversation with Simon Armitage in The Poet Laureate Has Gone to His Shed on BBC Sounds. Recorded last year in

#### A gentle conversation

Charles with Simon Armitage



the barn of Charles and Camilla's Welsh home of Llwynywermod, Carmarthenshire, this is a transporting listen: rain pounds; peacocks cry. Charles speaks of his love of hedgerow-laying and tree-planting. Also of how landscapes he has known intimately all his life, such as the River Dee, Aberdeenshire, are being transformed by climate change.

Sadly some of Charles's music station appearances (such as Radio 3's Private Passions in December 2018; and two May 2020 Classic FM programmes he co-presented) are no longer available. Yet we know that his tracklist choices ranged from Beethoven's Fifth Symphony to Leonard Cohen's Take This Waltz. Also, from a Hospital Radio playlist put together during the pandemic, that he might shake a regal leg to the Three Degrees.

#### The Queen Consort

Camilla is an avid "wireless" listener. The *Archers* addict made a cameo on the soap in February 2011, and last year hosted a 70th birthday party for its cast and crew.

In February Emma Barnett presented a special edition of Radio 4's Woman's Hour from Clarence House. In it Camilla vowed to continue her support for victims of domestic violence after becoming Queen Consort.

A keen reader, Camilla has become an enthusiastic advocate for literacy, especially among children. She spoke to Michael Dobbs when he was a *Today* guest editor in December 2021 about her favourite, formative reads as a pony-mad child ("It still makes me cry to think about poor old Ginger in *Black Beauty*").

Camilla's championing of literacy and the Commonwealth were brought together in June when she launched the Commonwealth Poetry Podcast, Gyles Brandreth and his daughter Aphra's literary tour of 54 nations.

George Clooney and Julia Roberts belong together in rom-coms, says Edward Porter

**Ticket to Paradise** Ol Parker, 12A, 104min

Ticket to Paradise is a romantic comedy with an unbeatable star team-up: George Clooney and Julia Roberts. For them it's a notable journey back to rom-coms. Roberts, of course, is Hollywood's rom-com queen, but it has been a while since she visited her realm. Indeed, it has been a while since she appeared in any sort of big-screen movie.

As for Clooney, he should really be Hollywood's reigning rom-com king, but hasn't dipped his toe in the genre since 2003 with *Intolerable Cruelty*, one of the Coen brothers' less triumphant movies. His one romantic comedy before that was the 1996 misfire *One Fine Day*. If those experiences made him wary of rom-coms, will *Ticket to Paradise* show that he was wrong to stay away for so long?

It's directed and co-written by Ol Parker (*Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again!*) and you can see why Clooney was tempted back. There is



# It's just the ticket

welcome tropical warmth and Roberts and Clooney are on fine form.

They play Georgia and David, high-flyers who divorced about 20 years ago and have nurtured a bitter dislike for each other while watching their only child, Lily, grow up. The film begins with Lily (Kaitlyn Dever from Booksmart) leaving university and taking a trip to Bali. She falls for a lovely Indonesian, Gede (Maxime Bouttier), and tells her parents she is getting married. They try to derail this hasty decision.

Everyone winds up in Bali. And you know where this story is going. Instead of extinguishing their daughter's **Friends reunited** George Clooney and Julia Roberts

romance, David and Georgia are going to rekindle their own. Why, though, would a former couple suddenly rediscover a spark after so many years apart? This is a screenplay challenge for Parker and his co-writer,

Daniel Pipski, and the plot they come up with is sketchy.

Nostalgic chats and a big old drunken night out is all it takes for things to fall into place for the exes. David is single, and Georgia's boyfriend (Lucas Bravo from *Emily in Paris*) isn't a serious contender.

What the film lacks in coherence it makes up for with chemistry. Roberts and Clooney are friends who have worked together in four other films (Ocean's Eleven and Twelve, Money Monster and Clooney's directorial debut, Confessions of a Dangerous *Mind*), and share an easy rapport. They can both do fierce sarcasm. When David describes their marriage as the "worst 19 years of my life", Georgia tartly points out that they were only married for five. "I'm counting the recovery," he says. Their conciliatory moments are sweetly written, and the stars convince us that we are watching two people who know each other well. It's good to see Roberts back in light entertainment. Her comic skills are as sharp as ever. Clooney, meanwhile, is as suave and genial as you would expect. At 61 he might not have many rom-com lead roles ahead of him. His performance here is a welcome glimpse of what we've been missing.

Released on Tuesday

#### Peacock or messiah: will we ever know the real Bowie?



Moonage Daydream
Brett Morgen, 15, 135 min
★★★

David Bowie is a moving target for documentarians – elusive, mocking, chameleonic– and Brett Morgen's *Moonage Daydream* is in no hurry to pin him down. His film is a collage that at times competes with the Thin White Duke himself for portentous razzle-dazzle. It's the whole rock starmessiah enchilada.

Here is Bowie on stage as Ziggy Stardust in 1972, androgynous and rail-thin, channelling suburban alienation. Here he is in America, driving through the desert and playing the Elephant Man on Broadway. And here he is tap-dancing around his interviewers on TV – dry, amused, endlessly polite, occasionally emitting a flash of fear if the interviewer gets too close. "Is there a real David Bowie?" one asks. "At times." Is he here now? "One wonders."

One does. Morgen's film doesn't get very far – and barely tries to penetrate the mystique. It's a full hour before we reach an account of his childhood, another 20 minutes

before we learn that it was in Brixton where Bowie drank deep of the vampiric coldness of his parents' marriage. "Love can't get in my way," he once told an interviewer.

Fearful of following his brother off the cliff of schizophrenia, he instead devoted himself to a career of almost constant change and reinvention. Bowie calls this his "hotchpotch philosophy," and Morgen is happy to try to match it with a blistering series of cut-ups and

montages.

Blink and you will miss A Clockwork Orange, Nosferatu, Un Chien Andalou and 2001: A Space Odyssey. The result is a kaleidoscopic

portrait of a kaleidoscopic career, with film-maker and singer sometimes enhancing each another, at others cancelling each other out.

Morgen's indulgence of Bowie's partiality to messianic pontification – at one point referring to "the vast expanse of my imagination" – does not do the singer any favours.

With a peacock as dazzling as Bowie, you wonder if the documentarian isn't better served by a tighter focus, as in Francis Whately's *The Last Five Years*, which detailed the singer's years in West Berlin trying to kick heroin and recording some of his best material, *Low* and *Heroes*, with Brian Eno, amid the graffiti and needles of the Bundesrepublik.

Bowie was such a porous creative personality that he needed great collaborators — Lou Reed, Eno, Nile Rodgers — to properly find himself. Morgen is disapproving, you feel, of the collaboration with Rodgers on *Let's Dance*. It's the early Eighties era of star duets and sold-out stadiums when Bowie became, in the words of one fan, "something rather ordinary: a superstar".

Yet he managed somehow to skip the bitterness and anger that caught up with many rocktogenarians; his years with his second wife, Iman, give off an aura of happiness and pixieish fun. "It's been an incredible life," he said not long before he died. "I'd love to do it again." For once, you believe him.

# HOLLYWOOD'S NEW HERO

At 57, the award-winning actress Viola Davis is fulfilling her dream of a leading role in an epic to rival Gladiator. Interview by *Jake Helm* 

have never done anything like this before," Viola Davis declares. It's a bold statement for someone who has achieved almost everything: at 57 she's the most nominated black woman in the history of the Oscars (four nods, one win as a patient mother in *Fences* in 2017) and the only black actor to win the Triple Crown, which is an Oscar, an Emmy and a Tony.

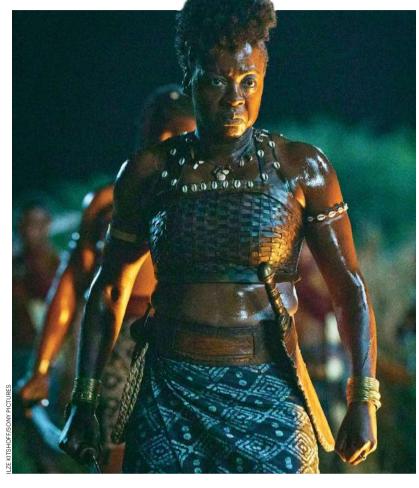
Yet Hollywood has never afforded her the opportunity she has always wanted: to play a hero in an epic. "I've dreamt about it my entire career, watching *Braveheart*, *Gladiator*... I've always wanted to be part of those stories."

Now, after more than two decades on screen, she has her chance with *The Woman King*, out next month. It opened at the Toronto Film Festival last week to glowing reviews. Set in the 19th century, it is the true story of the Agojie, female warriors who defended the West African kingdom of Dahomey (present-day Benin) from neighbouring tribes and Portuguese slave traders.

It all started seven years ago when Davis and her fellow producers, including her husband, Julius Tennon, pitched the idea. They were met with rejections. Not only did the studios think the film wouldn't earn enough to meet the budget (which in the end was \$50 million), they also wanted to cast lightskinned actresses, which the producers felt was historically inaccurate. There was a fear around the project. "It's female-led, it's black female-led, it's dark-skinned black female-led, it's a period piece," Davis says. "That culminates into something that in the past people wouldn't have understood and Hollywood would not have received."

Davis is used to being an outsider. She grew up in Rhode Island in a poor family. They were the only African-Americans in the town and every day she was chased home from school by a group of racist boys throwing rocks at her. Years later she got to the Juilliard acting school, then had a lengthy theatre career before becoming a film star.

Hollywood has changed since she started out. The West is waking up to the global appetite for African stories, evidenced by the success of the superhero film *Black Panther*, which took



more than \$1.3 billion at the box office. It showed that "you don't have to look like the people up on the screen to identify with them", explains Gina Prince-Bythewood, the director of *The Woman King*. "It proved something to

Hollywood and cracked open the door that we're now trying to run through."

The next challenge was doing justice

to the story, which before has only been told in historical accounts by European slave traders and colonialists. Only one full-length English-language book exists about the Agojie: *The Amazons of Black Sparta*, by the white writer Stanley Bernard Alpern in 2011. It refers to the

female warriors as "beasts".

Thuso Mbedu, 31, who plays an Aogjie recruit in the film, was born in a small town in South Africa and only learnt about these women in the audition process. "Our curriculum favoured whatever was given to us by the Brits, our main colonisers," the actress says. "Growing up we were taught that we were the oppressed, the undermined, never celebrated." Prince-

**African tale** Viola Davis as the general and, below, John Boyega as the king

Bythewood's intention is to change that. She says: "In the States we're not taught anything but that our history begins with enslavement. We're opening people's eyes to a history that has been ignored."

The Agojie were formed when war and the European slave trade reduced the male population of Dahomey. To fill the shortage of male fighters, females aged between 8 and 14 were put forward to fight for the king. They

were not allowed to have sex, marry or have children. Instead

I didn't want a propaganda-esque narrative that just paints everybody as perfect

they grew their fingernails as weapons and used palm oil on their skin so opponents couldn't grab hold of them. They could scale 15m-high thorny acacia bushes barefoot without a whimper.

The film joins them in 1823, when the all-female unit of warriors is fighting back against the neighbouring, richer Oyo Empire, which is in league with the Portuguese slave traders and has been exploiting Dahomey's people and selling them into slavery in Europe. Davis's general is an amalgamation of Agojie leaders who lived at the time.

John Boyega plays King Ghezo, who ruled Dahomey during this period. It's a supporting role, secondary to the women. The director sought Boyega out after his speech at a Black Lives Matter protest in Hyde Park after the killing of George Floyd in 2020. Megaphone in hand, he gave an emotional speech about the importance of black men taking "care of our black women".

"This movie was not a career move," he says. "I would have shown up even if I had two lines in it. I wanted to see women being empowered in these roles." It's a nuanced story, though — Boyega only agreed to star in the film if it included the fact that Dahomey derived its wealth from capturing Africans for the transatlantic slave trade: "I didn't want a propagandaesque narrative that didn't accept the complexities of the time and paints everybody as perfect."

The film comes out at a charged time – there has been racist backlash against the inclusion of black characters in the *Game of Thrones* prequel *House of the Dragon* and the *Lord of the Rings* spinoff *The Rings of Power*. Boyega simply says: "Been there, done that." When he played a stormtrooper in *Star Wars* he faced online racism too. "I feel like those people will be the minority. I trust the audience to understand at least what we are trying to portray."

Davis adds: "If I were afraid of backlash or if I were afraid of anything in life then I wouldn't move. I'd simply be rendered frozen. Failure means that you're trying." Above all she wants to tell a story. "I don't feel like we should have the burden of being a moving political statement all the time."

The Woman King is her "magnum opus". "This is like a coming-out party," she says proudly. "When given the opportunity, this is what I can do. It's come to me at the ripe age of 57, but I've always had it in me. I have a lot of stories in me. I just haven't always been given the opportunity to tell them."

The Woman King is in cinemas from October 4

#### POP & ROCK

#### **Mumford's bravery**

#### Marcus Mumford (self-titled) ★★★★ Island



How do you write about an album born of trauma, its lyrics teeming

with confession and catharsis, the experience of listening to it akin to illicitly recording a private conversation? Are you reviewing the courage, or the songs? Never has this dilemma seemed so sharp as with (self-titled), Marcus Mumford's ALBUM debut solo album **OF THE** — a record he made as he finally faced WEEK up to the sexual

a child and began to address the dire consequences it has had for him and his wife, family and friends. Sonically stark and unadorned, just Mumford and an occasional guest - Clairo, Monica Martin, Phoebe Bridgers and Brandi Carlile — delivering lyrics that will make you cry and rage, these songs take you inside the singer's mind. home and marriage, sparing no one, least of all Mumford. The hideous details of his abuse open the album, on Cannibal, the vocal almost

matter-of-fact and thus doubly heartbreaking. How closes the record, as he finally feels ready to forgive. In between, addiction, marital fracture,



disclosure and therapy are revisited on tracks such as Better Off High, Prior Warning, Grace and Dangerous Game. Five stars for bravery. And five, too, for creating such beauty out of such tragedy. Dan Cairns

#### Rina Sawayama

Hold the Girl ★★★★ Dirty Hit

abuse he suffered as

The singer's second album takes her songwriting to another level, which is saying something given how superb her debut was. On lyrically savvy stunners such as Forgiveness, Minor Feelings

and the title track, she twists big-hair balladry, musical theatre and country into fascinating new shapes. **DC** 

#### Suede Autofiction ★★★

BMG

Autofiction is "our punk record", Brett Anderson

claims — a bit of a stretch, perhaps, but there is a melodrama and feral energy to highlights such as Personality Disorder and The Only Way I Can Love You that harks back to the earliest days. Not quite classic Suede, but many of these songs should be amazing live. **DC** 

# TIMES RADIO DAB RADIO ONLINE SMART SPEAKER APP

#### **CLASSICAL**

#### Chopin, Rachmaninov Cello Sonatas ★★★★

Jean-Guihen Queyras (cello), Alexander Melnikov (piano) Harmonia Mundi



Two among endless examples here of the alchemy

created by the pairing of Queyras and Melnikov are the opening bars of the Rachmaninov, the yearning of the cello balanced by the resolute underpinning and flourish of the piano; and the absolute purity of line and tone they conjure in the Chopin largo. I could listen to the two performers' renditions of both works for hours, so absorbing are these beautifully captured recordings. **DC** 

# **CAUGHT B**

Lang Lang's new album celebrates Disney music — it's typical of this pianist who is both popular and classical, Chinese and western

#### DAN CAIRNS INTERVIEW



ang Lang is talking about the day his father ordered him to kill himself. The pianist was nine and living in Beijing with his father, who had given up his job as a policeman and moved from the suburbs of Beijing to the centre to devote himself to his son's musical training. So when a teacher told the boy he lacked talent, his father was furious.

"I remember thinking, 'I don't want to die for this,'" Lang Lang says now. "Before that moment, I'd always loved to play the piano, even though my father pushed me. I loved music. But if it becomes a situation where you have to die for music, well, I don't want to do that. I'm not that stupid."

Now 40, Lang Lang is a global superstar. He was the first Chinese pianist to work at the Berlin Philharmonic, the Vienna Philharmonic and in the US and owns houses and flats in China and the US. Yet he is a man caught between two worlds. He states that his ambition is "to use the piano to tell the China story, to convey the China voice", yet he shies away from politics.

Seconds before our interview is due to begin I'm informed that questions about politics are out of bounds. It's a charged time – Liz Truss is expected to officially class China as a threat to national security for the first time, and President Biden is no less hawkish on Sino-US relations than his predecessor. Meanwhile, the Chinese government's appalling treatment of the Uighur people continues to cause outrage. So Lang Lang treads carefully.

Yet his career too is divisive – he is equal parts populist showman and earnest interpretative musician. His new album, *The Disney Book*, will delight his hundreds of thousands of fans, but is unlikely to appease his detractors. It reimagines songs from Disney films, ranging from *Mary Poppins* and *The Jungle Book* to *Frozen* and *Encanto*, reflecting the pianist's aim to inspire a



**Key to success** The pianist Lang Lang

Parents need to help their children to love what they do, not push them to the edge

# ETWEEN TWO WORLDS



new generation to explore the classical repertoire and break down the barriers that surround it.

"I don't want [the album] to send out the wrong message," Lang Lang says, laughing. "Classical pianist goes crazy and starts thinking not about the classical repertoire but about Disney. The point I'm trying to communicate is that, even though this is Disney music, you can make it sound like a Chopin ballade. Classical music has the most unlimited styles of arrangement. Of course, the comfort zone is the standard repertoire, but you can also do, say, Disney in a classical way."

It helps that it's a wonderful record. Working with musicians such as Andrea Bocelli, Jon Batiste and the British pianist and composer Stephen Hough, Lang Lang – who was inspired to play the piano aged two after watching the

Tom and Jerry film *The Cat Concerto*, in which Tom performs Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No 2 – radically reinterprets classics from the Disney songbook.

Hough's arrangement of *Bare Necessities* typifies the vim and verve of these reworkings, yanking the original melody into territory once staked out by Stravinsky, Chopin, Rachmaninov, Scott Joplin and the like. "It allows me to be more relaxed about doing improvisation, and gives me the opportunity to do something I never have the chance to do in the core repertoire," Lang Lang explains.

Critics who accuse the pianist of "overplaying" might beg to differ, but we move on. "Baroque music does give room for the interpreter to add ornamentation – all those wonderful decoration notes. But once you get to the Beethoven concertos, even in his

cadenzas you cannot change a note. The same with Chopin."

Lang Lang's showy reputation has dogged him from the start. Some of the criticism is fair, but much is simple snobbery. "Every time I played a big recital in the past, I tended to do too much," the pianist admits. "That's not a smart thing to do. I always wanted more, but sometimes less is more. So that's what I sometimes feel about my early concerts – that they were a little bit overdone. But you learn. Now I know I'm there to make music rather than show off."

He has a music foundation in China and wants to promote the message "that being a pianist shouldn't be painful, it should be joyful. You have to work hard and love what you do, but you shouldn't be doing it only as a result of being pushed. That's not going

to make Beethoven work, or Mozart sound beautiful. Parents need to help their children to love what they do, not push them to the edge. That's just killing their innocence."

Lang Lang has long used his clout to raise funds for his foundation, which works in China and across the globe to provide access to instruments and music education — he recently announced his intention to donate hundreds of pianos to British schools. In China learning the piano is increasingly common, even expected, among middle-class families, and he is seen nationally as a role model for children.

When he broke through internationally in the early Noughties, relations between China and the West were heading towards a period of rapprochement that reached its peak in the "golden era" of the David Cameron years. Times have changed.

In this context, his unwillingness to rock the boat and threaten this work seems understandable. Pragmatism will be a factor too. Consider, after all, the missing tennis player Peng Shuai, who disappeared after complaining publicly that she had been forced into having sex by a top Chinese politician. If Lang Lang opts for tickling the ivories rather than stirring the hornets' nest, who can blame him?

So Lang Lang is savvy, often playing patriotic songs such as *The Yellow River*, *The Ode to Yangtze*, *Liuyang River* and *My Motherland* (the last is from an anti-imperialist film about the Korean war, which he controversially included in his recital at a state dinner at the White House in 2011 for the president Hu Jintao). He knows how to look both ways.

Returning to *The Disney Book*, Lang Lang contends that, far from being a dumbing-down exercise, it is expressly designed to draw people in. Hough concurs. "For young people this music, played by someone of Lang Lang's brilliance, someone who has this audience, can only be good. Playing that music in this way isn't stiffening it up, it's opening people up to a wider variety. That isn't snobbery, it's awakening."

You suspect that Lang Lang will be for ever impossible to pin down. A born communicator who knows when to keep his mouth shut. A man with feet in two camps who somehow manages to stay upright. East v West, but floating somewhere in between. Does that mean he's walking a tightrope, as someone once suggested? If he is, he's looking pretty steady up there.

The Disney Book is out now

# Women on the rise



The stories of ignored female artists are being told at last. Now you can see the work — and it's intimate, gripping and angry

Topic of the month on the art front has been: forgotten women. Until now, it has raged chiefly on the books pages, where an assortment of feisty tomes on the subject have been receiving excited reviews.

Femina, by Janina Ramirez, is "writing women back into history" by listing and celebrating the undervalued heroines of the Middle Ages. The Story of Art Without Men, by Katy Hessel, gives us a pantheon of women artists whose work has been ignored in previous masculinist histories. Phaidon's Great Women Painters, on the way in October, will leave no female reputation undiscovered as it trawls the annals for omissions.



**Big night** Prom by Chantal Joffe depicts her daughter

Fair to say, I think, that forgotten women are being enthusiastically remembered.

However, reading about the achievements of omitted art heroines must always be a second-hand experience. What we really need to do is see their work. So the blogger and curator Katy Hessel should be applauded for simultaneously bombarding us with relentless announcements about her book while mounting an elegant survey of some of the artists she applauds in her man-less story.

The show, loosely based on the book's final chapter, sports the dance-along title of *The Story of Art as it's Still Being Written*. What we are being presented with here is not omitted Renaissance heroines from Bologna, but a circle of active female artists in whose work Hessel is particularly interested.

One of the best things about her book is the untrammelled enthusiasm she brings to the task of unearthing numerous female histories. There's none of the ponderous doominess in her writing that marks the efforts of her predecessors in the field: no dour showering of gender-based guilt. This sense of genuinely loving the work she is writing about transfers tellingly to the show. It's a celebration not an accusation.

Fifteen women artists, all active today, with the exception of the tragic Khadija Saye, who died in the Grenfell fire, have been given space to express themselves in a roomy layout that allows each to be independently admired.

The first work you see, because it's unmissable, is Chantal Joffe's 10ft tall portrait of her teenage daughter in a striking red prom dress. This scale of portraiture is usually reserved for costly swagger likenesses of the rich and noble. By devoting the looming size to a nervous portrait of her daughter setting off on her big night, Joffe turns the personal into the public and makes something universal out of an intimate moment.

Tracey Emin gives us a trademark sprawling nude,



**Freud's lover** Celia Paul reveals her discomfort in Overshadowed, a self-portrait

her head obliterated in a Tom and Jerry tussle of thrashing red brush strokes, while the picture's title – *Rip my heart* out You F\*\*\*ing C\*\*\* – proves





#### THEATRE



that her recent cancer has not robbed Emin of any of her accusatory anger.

All the artists here are exploring the fertile divide that separates the figurative from the abstract. Some lean one way, some the other, but all bring something particular to the party. In most group shows the artists are bunched together in curatorial clusters that blur their individuality. Not here.

Black artists are notably well represented, with Amy Sherald, Zanele Muholi, Somaya Critchlow and Deborah Roberts all making tasty appearances. Something about the tone of today's black women's art, with its emphasis on emerging identities and personal stories, chimes not only with Hessel's tastes, but also with the general direction in which art is heading.

This, then, is a story full of stories. And the one that gripped me most forcefully was told in a self-portrait by Celia Paul titled *Overshadowed*. Paul used to be the lover of Lucian Freud. She met

him when she was a student and he was her teacher. So the relationship never reached any kind of equilibrium. In *Overshadowed*, Paul shows herself sitting dutifully in a chair, staring straight at us with an uncomfortable face, while a large, dark shadow falls on her and seems almost to enclose her. I wonder who that is?

At the Barbican Art Gallery an ambitious survey is attempting to solidify and enlarge the reputation of the American performance artist Carolee Schneemann (1939-2019). I wouldn't call her a forgotten artist – we've all heard of Schneemann, usually for the wrong reasons – but she is certainly underexplored and probably undervalued.

The reason we have heard of her is because in the 1960s and 1970s she seemed never to miss an opportunity to take off her clothes and make "body art". To the casual viewer, her performances were only mildly distinguishable from full-on orgies. When it came to recurring nakedness, no one in modern aesthetics could hold a candle to Schneemann.

The Barbican show successfully removes most of the heat and sweatiness from our image of Schneemann by forensically examining all of her important performances in calm documentary detail and by adding thoughtful ruminations here and there upon the reasons for her nakedness. Schneemann saw her body as an artistic tool to be wielded in a battle with masculinist art history. Her feminist critics, though, were quick to accuse her of self-evident narcissism. Hmmm.

I left the show admiring the early paintings she made as an abstract expressionist, and grateful to the Barbican for enlarging her career. When it came to the nudity, however, an insistent question continued to trouble me: would Schneemann have been as keen to make body art if she didn't have the figure of a supermodel and the looks of a Hollywood starlet?

The Story of Art as it's Still Being Written, at the Victoria Miro Gallery, London N1, until October 1; Carolee Schneemann, at the Barbican Art Gallery, London EC2, until January 8

#### **Rushed out**

This play about middle-class British Nigerians was served before it was ready



**The Clinic** *Almeida Theatre, N1* 

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Timing is everything. Just as Kwasi Kwarteng, James Cleverly and Suella Braverman are appointed to the three most senior positions in cabinet, so a new play opens exploring life in an upwardly mobile British-Nigerian family.

I'm afraid there's a but. Commercial theatres might have been tougher on, and therefore ultimately more helpful to, Dipo Baruwa-Etti's The Clinic. Its idea has its moments, but the plot is a mess and the characterisation jerky. A West End producer would surely have told the playwright to "make the comedy sharper and the story more believable". Instead, The Clinic washed up at the Arts Council-funded Almeida, a sucker for identity politics. The play was gobbled down before it was ripe.

Segun, a psychiatrist, and his gushy wife, Tiwa, are prosperous Londoners. Their multimillion-pound house has a Nigella-standard kitchen. Tiwa (a good turn from Donna Berlin) is a vigorous shopper with a taste for wine. One of her children is a policeman married to a Labour MP; the other is a doctor. Segun and Tiwa vote Conservative. Britain has been good for them. But

the doctor-daughter is a left-wing misery, anguished about Black Lives Matter. She suggests the parents give a room to one of her depressed patients, a black-rights activist called Wunmi. Big mistake. Like the best dramatic catalysts, Wunmi sows division and chaos.

This production has slick staging and a talented cast, even if the likeable Simon Manyonda is unpersuasive as a frontline officer. Nor is his marriage to the MP (Mercy Ojelade) convincing, but that is less the result of casting than sketchy writing. Wunmi (Toyin Ayedun-Alase) has an electrical quality. The Ian Charleson award-winner Gloria Obianyo, as the doctor, lives up to her rising reputation.

Scenes hurtle from comedy to political argument. If the play is truly a dark comedy about a stalker, it needs a steadier crescendo. There is some unexplained business about Wunmi becoming addicted to tea. Is it drugged? We are not told. Segun, in a couple of lines, becomes an adulterous lecher. One moment Wunmi is happy and non-political, the next she is raging about activism. The script attacks middle-class black pretension, with a dig at MPs such as Kwarteng, Cleverly and Kemi Badenoch, but this was rendered inaudible by an over-whoopy audience. Friends of the show, probably. Like the Almeida's management, they did the play no favours.

For tickets, visit thetimes.co.uk/tickets

#### Doctor's orders

Gloria Obianyo lives up to her rising reputation





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10am-1pm	Hugo Rifkind	Kate McCann & Adam Boulton
lpm-4pm	Alexis Conran	Alexis Conran
4pm-7pm	Ayesha Hazarika	Ayesha Hazarika
7pm-10pm	Podcasts	Podcasts
10pm-lam	Kait Borsay	Kait Borsay

## His magical mind

An intimate portrait of Terry Pratchett captures his wit, courage — and anger

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# Freudian quips

The eccentric letters of the man who painted Kate Moss and the Queen

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# From 9/11 hero to laughing stock

This riveting rubberneck of a read charts Rudy Giuliani's life from mafia family to New York mayor — and Trump's apologist

#### **AMERICA**

#### **Josh Glancy**

**Giuliani** The Rise and Tragic Fall of America's Mayor by Andrew Kirtzman Simon & Schuster £20 pp480

What the hell happened to Rudy Giuliani? It's a question much of America was asking in the winter of 2020 while watching the former mayor of New York debase himself in the service of Donald Trump's attempt to overturn a presidential election. As he made ever more outlandish claims about electoral fraud, brown hair dye running down his sweaty cheeks, his flatulence so clamourous it became a meme, he was unrecognisable from the once heroic symbol of Manhattan's endurance after 9/11.

Giuliani went from being given an honorary knighthood by Queen Elizabeth II in 2002 to holding an unhinged press conference next to a sex shop in 2020. From *Time* magazine's Person of the Year to selling happy birthday messages for \$400 on the Cameo app, "America's mayor" had become Trump's poodle.

Was Giuliani's decline inevitable or might the better angels of his nature have prevailed? This is the question that Andrew Kirtzman sets out to answer in his second Giuliani biography (the first covers the period before 9/11). A veteran New York reporter, Kirtzman was with the mayor on the fateful morning that the twin towers fell and knows his inner circle well. The result is a riveting rubberneck of a read, mortifying and meticulously reported.

Giuliani was born in 1944 to a blue-collar Italian-American family in Brooklyn. His father, Harold, was a violent criminal who served time for robbery and wielded a baseball bat for his mafioso brother-in-law. Kirtzman suspects that the damage done to young Rudy by this "pathologically self-centred" man was "incalculable".

His mother, Helen,
however, was "controlled
and focused", putting "heavy
pressure" on him to succeed.
Giuliani's sharp intellect got
him to law school at New York
University. He worshipped the
Kennedys in those days, but
had conservative instincts:
while his fellow students
got stoned, he wore suits
and enjoyed "listening to
Verdi in his room".

Giuliani was always driven by a strong sense of his moral purpose and wanted to become a prosecutor or a priest. Yet he was also a hypocrite and cheated persistently on his first wife, Regina. "He was pretty wild. He hit on everybody. All the time," one former friend recalled. Giuliani quickly moved on to a second wife, Donna, with whom he had

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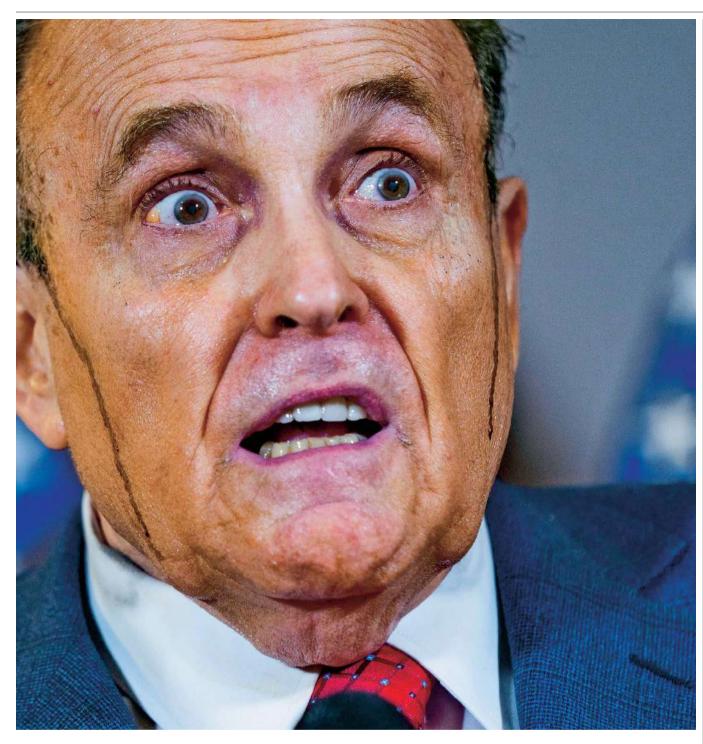
two children, Andrew and Caroline.

He opted for prosecutor over priest and rose through the legal ranks, landing the prize role of US attorney for the Southern District of New York in 1983.

From there his ascent was meteoric. He helped to break the mafia, prosecuting New York's "five families". He took

down significant whitecollar criminals including Michael Milken, the junk bond king. Having lost one election for mayor of New York in 1989, he ousted David Dinkins from Gracie Mansion in 1993 and became prince of the city.

As mayor of Gotham, Giuliani styled himself as a



cross between Batman and Savonarola, seeking to drive the filth from crime-ridden New York. He hired the tough guy police commissioner Bill Bratton and applied the "broken windows" theory, ensuring that no small act of vandalism went unpunished. Crime dropped almost 60 per cent during his tenure and the murder rate plummeted.

Yet there was also unapologetic racial targeting. Giuliani's black deputy mayor, Rudy Washington, was stopped and frisked so often, he was given a special badge to show overzealous officers.

In 2000 Giuliani decided to take on Hillary Clinton in the race for New York senator, but prostate cancer and revelations of an affair with Judith Nathan, who became his third wife, knocked him out of contention. His two terms as mayor were drawing to a close when the aircraft hit the World Trade Center, catapulting him to global fame.

Charging around a smouldering Manhattan in Churchillian fashion, he became the face of America's response, an icon of resilience. He was courageous, brash and eloquent. He was tireless too, sleeping four hours a night and attending more than 200 firefighter funerals.

Yet from the moment he left office things went downhill. He cashed in on his reputation and consulted for all manner of shady clients, from Purdue Pharmaceuticals (of opioid crisis infamy) to MEK, an Iranian militia. A "creeping decadence" set in. At one point he had six homes and 11 country club memberships, and in six months he spent \$12,000 on cigars and \$7,000 on fountain pens. On one private flight to Europe he was furious that the jet didn't stock cashmere blankets.

When he finally ran for the Republican presidential nomination in 2008, the campaign flopped. His 9/11 halo had dimmed and his social liberalism made him ill-suited to win over the Republican heartlands.

Depressed and defeated, he was offered sanctuary by Trump, who used the tunnels **Fallen** Rudy Giuliani's hair-dye moment in 2020. Left: with Trump in 1995

under Mar-a-Lago to sneak him and his wife in for dinner. When a club employee was caught photographing Nathan, Donald and Melania Trump had them fired.

Two old lions of New York, Trump and Giuliani delight in

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He and Trump are bound by mutual self-interest

each other's alpha bravado and are bound by mutual respect and self-interest. One key difference, though, is that Giuliani drinks, while Trump is sober. "He was shitfaced," is how Nathan describes Giuliani before one damaging fall.

As Giuliani's relevance began to wane, Trump became his last ticket to the big time and he threw his lot in with the property tycoon's underdog 2016 campaign.

Despite his loyalty, Giuliani was passed over for secretary of state, becoming Trump's media attack dog and personal lawyer instead. His media appearances were frequent, frenetic and seemingly well lubricated, but because of his closeness to Trump he was able to do real damage. First in Ukraine, where he cooked up a "big bowl of spaghetti", leading Trump to threaten to withhold arms from a newly installed President Zelensky unless he announced an investigation into Joe Biden's son Hunter.

That earned Trump his first impeachment. In November 2020 Giuliani helped to put Trump on a path to a second. "Just pick a state and say that we won!" was his electionnight advice. By January 6 he was exhorting an angry crowd of Trump fans in Washington to resist a democratic election result through "trial by combat". The infamous assault on Congress followed.

As of today, Giuliani's law licence has been suspended. He's facing lawsuits and investigations for his role in January 6 and is squabbling with Nathan in court over the scraps of his fortune.

So what did happen to him? Kirtzman's view is that he didn't so much change his stripes as surrender to his worst instincts and need for validation. "A powerful man bereft of self-doubt can accomplish great things. Or cause tremendous damage."

Kirtzman has written a comprehensive and devastating portrait of an American life at once great and dismal. It is all the more devastating because, despite his criticism, the author clearly admires the mayor's squandered talents.

Giuliani may yet have further to fall, but a once golden legacy is irreparably tarnished. Does he worry about this, a journalist asked recently. "I don't care about my legacy," he responded with characteristic contempt. "I'll be dead."

# Gangsters, girls and bad spelling

Lucian Freud's riotous lust for life is revealed in this collection of his letters

#### **LETTERS**

#### **Stephen Smith**

Love Lucian The Letters of Lucian Freud 1939-1954 by David Dawson and Martin Gayford Thames & Hudson pp392 £65

To art lovers, the publication of Lucian Freud's letters is like the moment in Peter Jackson's Beatles documentary when Paul McCartney picks up his bass and creates *Get Back* out of thin air. It's letting daylight in on magic or, in Freud's case, on the inner life of a fascinating artist who loathed publicity so much that he was known to throw bread rolls at anyone who tried to photograph him in a restaurant.

This collection is the first time his letters have been brought together, although any resemblance to Van Gogh and his urgent dispatches from the front line of genius is entirely coincidental. Freud liked to send postcards, the more outré the better, and candid soul-searching wasn't really his thing.

He was one of the most remarkable British painters of the previous century. In his portraits he trained an unsparing eye on everyone from Kate Moss to the Queen. He died in 2011, and four years later his picture Benefits Supervisor Resting set a record price for the artist of more than £35 million. Freud fathered children on a scale rarely encountered outside the Old Testament: perhaps 30 in all, if you believe everything you read. His extended family makes the home life of our previous prime minister look stiflingly uneventful.

In the 1940s and early 1950s, the period covered by *Love Lucian*, Freud was a young man on the make in London, rubbing threadbare shoulders with society hostesses and crooks. His

letters from the time are like first drafts of outrageous, blackly comic tales. He tells a girlfriend, Felicity Hellaby, about bumping into a friend of hers. "I met a boy man in the ritz last night by terrific chance who said he saw you in Norwich," he scrawls in his idiosyncratic, headlong style. Barely missing a beat, he goes on, "I had to diall 999 this morning in order to ask Scotland vard to remove a threatening gangster who was hanging around the door."

He writes to his friend and fellow artist John Craxton in January 1946: "Icy cold here and I've got the blues a terrible fat angel faced thug at the pub keeps on blowing his nose on my scarf."

Born in Berlin, Freud settled in England as a boy after his family fled the Nazis, but struggled at school. His patchy education might explain his riotous spelling, but his childlike handwriting was probably deliberate. That's the view of the art historian Martin Gayford, who assembled this collection with Freud's former assistant David Dawson. It's fair to say that they didn't agonise about what to leave out; the hard part was finding letters to put

**Lovers** Freud with Lady Caroline Blackwood in 1953 in, and much of *Love Lucian* is made up of commentary, insightful as it is.

Does this handsome volume end up telling us anything more than William Feaver's tremendous two-volume biography, just out in paperback? It's an emphatic yes from me. One of the pleasures of the letters is Freud's accompanying illustrations and cartoons. With another lover, Lady Caroline Blackwood, he goes to see his friend Francis Bacon, who orders Freud: "Kiss her!" Freud obliges. Bacon takes a photograph and Freud produces a sketch after the photograph in a love letter to Blackwood.

Freud comes as close as he ever did to a manifesto in these letters. A rich patron asks if he's "living with proper frugality" and the artist replies, "No Colin, I am not behaving with proper frugality nor ever have. It is entirely against my nature... As for those wolves [at the door]... I realise only too well that the wolves and their needs are created entirely by my tastes and feelings but it is through my tastes and feelings that I Live as a painter and as a person."

We might think we know Freud from the Old Master he became, forbidding and unbiddable, but part of the charm of this book is the revelation – to me, at least of his sense of humour. The unfurnished flats and enthusiastic freeloading of his early years anticipate the milieu of Withnail and I, which was set a couple of decades later. Freud even gets in first with Withnail's great line (the one about holidays), writing to Hellaby in 1942, "I've grown a beard by mistake."



# Do leaders ever really matter?

Less than we think, and usually for the worse, argues Hitler's acclaimed biographer — except for Churchill

#### HISTORY Dominic Sandbrook

**Personality and Power** Builders and Destroyers of Modern Europe *by Ian Kershaw* Allen Lane £30 pp490

On the evening of December 13, 1931, Winston Churchill was in New York. Having finished his dinner, he was thinking about going to bed when an old friend rang and invited him to his 5th Avenue apartment for a nightcap. So Churchill hailed a cab and set off. Unfortunately he had forgotten his friend's address, and after an hour of searching he got out to ask for help.

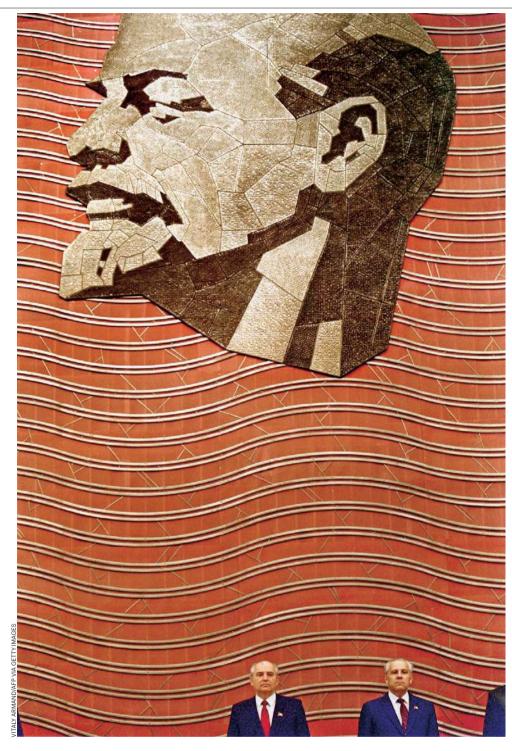
It was at that point, as a distracted Churchill set out across the road, that he sensed a black shape rushing towards him at full speed – a car coming not from his right, as in England, but from the left. It was too late to take evasive action. "There was one moment – I cannot measure it in time – of a world aglare, of a man aghast," Churchill wrote later. "I certainly thought quickly enough to achieve the idea, 'I am going to be run down and probably killed.' Then came the blow."

The future prime minister was not, in fact, killed that night, but it was a close-run thing. As he recorded, the impact was "the equivalent of falling thirty feet on to a pavement... or two charges of buckshot at point-blank range". If he had died, perhaps the swastika would still fly over Europe today. Or would it?

Do individual leaders really make that much difference in history? Would the world today be the same if Churchill had been dead and buried in 1940, or if Lenin had never boarded his sealed train to the Finland Station in 1917, or if Mikhail Gorbachev had never become general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1985? Was Thomas Carlyle right when he claimed that history was simply the "practical realisation and embodiment, of Thoughts that dwelt in the Great Men sent into the world"? Or was Tolstoy right when, in War and Peace, he argued that kings and emperors were no more than the "slaves of history"?

Few historians are better qualified to answer these questions than Ian Kershaw – not just the definitive biographer of Adolf Hitler but the author of several excellent histories of 20th-century Europe. In a thoughtful preface to his latest work, he quotes Karl Marx's line that "men make their own history, but not as they please, in conditions of their own choosing", which gives a clue to his approach.

For although Kershaw believes leaders matter, he thinks context is no less important. An individual matters most, he argues, during crisis points such as wars and revolutions, "when existing structures of rule break down or are destroyed". So in some ways crises are even more important than individual personalities. Even Lenin,



Lenin's shadow Gorbachev takes his oath to become Soviet president, 1990

one of this book's dominant figures, "would probably have remained an exiled theorist" had it not been for the First World War.

We see Franco hunched over football pools

To explore his thesis, Kershaw picks 12 examples from 20th-century Europe, from Lenin, Stalin, Hitler and Churchill to Charles de Gaulle, Francisco Franco, Margaret Thatcher and Helmut Kohl. As always, he proves a splendid miniaturist, expertly sketching personalities and philosophies in a few coolly judged lines. "Even disturbing his neatly arrayed pencils," he says of the obsessive Lenin, "could provoke an outburst of temper." We see Franco hunched over his football pools, Kohl holding court in

a Rhineland inn, Tito sunning himself on his private island.

Did such diverse characters have anything in common? Ruthless opportunism, determination, towering self-belief and an appetite for hard work – though the lazy Hitler was a notable exception. But one thing mattered to them more than anything. "What counts is power," Tito said, "and power again, and power once and for all."

What kind of difference, then, do individuals make? An obvious if rather depressing conclusion is that when they

matter, they tend to matter for ill. As Kershaw points out, Russia was always going to have a revolution in 1917, but it was only Lenin, with his cold grasp of political timing and fanatical devotion to his Marxist vision, who ensured that it ended with a Bolshevik dictatorship. Similarly, although Bolshevism always had the potential to evolve into appalling despotism, it was only Stalin, with his poisonous combination of ideological dedication and paranoia, who ensured it killed so many millions. And although Germany was always likely to swing to the nationalist right in the 1930s, only Hitler, devoid of scruples and obsessed with antisemitism, could have led it so completely into the abyss. "The equation," writes Kershaw, "is straightforward: no Hitler, no Holocaust."

If Kershaw's book has a contemporary lesson, it is that societies are probably happiest and healthiest when leaders matter least. Institutions, not individuals, are the best guardians of liberty. "Collective, democratic leadership," he admits, "is often cumbersome, awkward [and] slow to reach decisions." But "the fewer the constraints on the leader, the more likely it is that rash, even catastrophic, decisions will be made". There's a lesson there. of course, for a certain gentleman in the Kremlin.

Back, though, to Churchill: a resplendent exception to the rule. Reflecting on his determination to fight on in the summer of 1940. Kershaw writes that there are "few instances where the impact of personality in a decision of vital consequence is so clearly demonstrated". Under the most likely alternative premier, Lord Halifax, Britain would have become a German satellite, US intervention would have become impossible and British troops might even have joined Hitler's assault on the Soviet Union.

"A pro-German government in Britain would have supported the war," Kershaw says bleakly, "and most likely been implicated in the horrific crimes against humanity that accompanied it, and in implementing the Holocaust." It's just as well, then, that Churchill didn't die that night, whatever his critics might think. C

#### **CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE WEEK NICOLETTE JONES**



#### **The Biggest Footprint** Eight Billion Humans.

One Clumsy Giant by Rob and Tom Sears Canongate £14.99, age 3-6

Published in 2021, but now the winner of the James Cropper Wainwright prize for children's writing on nature and conservation, this is a brilliant and original work of non-fiction that imagines all eight billion of us on Earth smooshed through Dr McCrackers's smooshing machine into one big blue mega-human 3km tall, and then considers the comparative volume of other creatures, and of what we produce, waste, destroy and consume. Along the way it teaches such memorable facts as that the population of the Earth could collectively fit into Greater London, and encourages us all to stop digging and using up, and to plant trees, clean up and rewild instead. Every spread is eye-opening and eye-catching, and the book is elegant, worrying, gripping, hopeful and sometimes even funny.

#### **WATCH OUT FOR**

The Baddies by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler Alison Green £12.99, age 3-6

The latest Donaldson/ Scheffler collaboration bounces along with Donaldson's rollicking rhyme as an unsightly threesome - troll, ghost and witch — compete to scare a little girl.

## A Python in Iraq

Michael Palin is moved to tears by his journey along the Tigris

#### **TRAVEL**

#### Justin Marozzi

Into Iraq by Michael Palin Hutchinson Heinemann £16.99 pp176

Can we begin by agreeing that Michael Palin can do no wrong? Sir Michael, knighted in 2019 for services to travel, culture and geography, is a National Treasure. Such is the longevity and success of his on-screen career that the 79-year-old has evolved from anti-establishment Monty Python legend to writer, travel presenter, actor and, finally, pillar of the establishment. A decade ago I was a trustee of the Royal Geographical Society when Palin was its entirely amiable and benign president who brought calm after a period of turmoil.

For most Brits on the cusp

of their 80th birthday, Iraq wouldn't necessarily be at the top of their bucket list. But Palin is not most Brits and has had the travel bug since he can remember. Talking to Colin Thubron, the master of travel writing, at a Royal Society of Literature event last year, he recalled a childhood reading Biggles, Conan Doyle, Rider Haggard and anything else involving journeys to unknown places.

So Iraq it is and off we go. His mission this time – primarily for a new three-part Channel 5 documentary – is to chart the course of the Tigris, which, with the Euphrates, is one of the two waterways that irrigated Mesopotamia, the Land Between the Rivers, and made it the birthplace of civilisation as early as the Sumerian period in the 6th millennium BC.

The travel diary, nicely written and laced with

warmth and humour, kicks off in the snow-dazzled highlands of eastern Turkey and Lake Hazar, which feeds the Tigris. After the lengthy rigmarole of getting a large TV crew plus all their gear across the border, after years hoping to get here, Palin admits he is "idiotically pleased" to enter Iraq.

Elation quickly turns to grief. He walks through the dystopian ruins of Mosul's old city, bombed to smithereens in the fight against Isis Islamists in 2016 and 2017. Here he meets a young boy and girl, photographs them among the debris of a roofless house and is moved to tears. A young Iraqi man tells him how Isis thugs killed a disabled friend of his and hurled gay men off rooftops. Iraq is a nation shaped and disfigured by tragedy.

Next up is oil-rich Kirkuk, source of all that black gold



**It's a wrap** Michael Palin filming in Iraq for Channel 5

that keeps the country going and lines the foreign bank accounts of the political class, as venal a group of men as you can find on the planet. As Palin aptly remarks of the Iraqi Anti-Corruption Academy: "There must be plenty of work to do there." Close by is Baba Gurgur, the Father of Fires, an eternal flame mentioned by Herodotus 2,500 years ago and the site of the first discovery of oil by the combined British, French and American

#### THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER

- It's something of a moment for the bestseller lists this Sunday the first time for 152 consecutive weeks that The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse hasn't been in the top ten. We're confident it will be back at some point, but that unbroken run is over.
- And the Booker seems to be having an effect on Claire Keegan, whose Small Things Like These has entered the fiction hardback list for the first time, 11 months after it was published and a few days after it was shortlisted for the prize.

The lists are prepared by and the data is supplied by (and copyrighted to) Nielsen BookScan, and are taken from the TCM for the week ending 10/09/22. Figures shown are sales for the seven-day period.

	GENERAL HARDBACKS	Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	Why Has Nobody Told Me This Before?  Julie Smith (M Joseph £16.99) Clinical psychologist's advice for navigating life's ups and downs (4,730)	3	36
2	Agatha Christie: A Very Elusive Woman Lucy Worsley (Hodder £25) The life of the internationally renowned crime fiction writer (3,835)	-	1
3	How to Live When You Could Be Dead Deborah James (Vermilion £14.99) On finding hope and strength during life's darkest moments (3,440)	2	4
4	<b>A Visible Man</b> /Edward Enninful (Bloomsbury £25) The editor-in-chief of British Vogue on his rise to the top of the fashion world (3,330)	-	1
5	How to Be Confident/James Smith (HarperCollins £20) The personal trainer's honest advice for overcoming self-doubt (2,945)	1	2
6	The Story of Art without Men/Katy Hessel (Hutchinson Heinemann £30) A revisionist history of art, with women to the fore (2,550)	-	1
7	Queen of Our Times/Robert Hardman (Macmillan £20) The life of Queen Elizabeth II, with new insights from those who knew her best (2,410)	-	6
8	Ten Things I Hate About Me/Joe Tracini (Trapeze £16.99) The actor and comedian on living with Borderline Personality Disorder (2,400)	_	1
9	<b>Revenge</b> /Tom Bower (Blink £22) The biographer on Meghan, Prince Harry and the rift with the royal family (1,885)	9	8
10	Apollo Remastered/Andy Saunders (Particular £60) Restored images of Apollo missions produced from 50-year-old original film (1,830)	4	2

	GENERAL PAPERBACKS	Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	A Family Torn Apart Cathy Glass (HarperCollins £8.99) Two young sisters are removed from their home after a serious accusation (11,340)		2
2	<b>Taste</b> /Stanley Tucci (Fig Tree £9.99) A gastronomic journey through the actor's life in and out of the kitchen (7,590)	2	2
3	This Much Is True/Miriam Margolyes (J Murray £9.99) The Bafta-winning star of stage and screen reflects on her life and career (4,150)	3	10
4	<b>The Storyteller</b> /Dave Grohl (Simon & Schuster £9.99) The Nirvana and Foo Fighters rock star shares stories from his life (2,800)	7	14
5	<b>Windswept &amp; Interesting</b> /Billy Connolly (Two Roads £9.99) Memoir by the comedian who rose to fame after an appearance on <i>Parkinson</i> (2,785)	4	8
6	Atomic Habits/James Clear (Random House £16.99) The minuscule changes that can grow into life-altering outcomes (2,630)	6	55
7	And Away/Bob Mortimer (Simon & Schuster £8.99) The Shooting Stars and Gone Fishing funnyman's autobiography (2,420)	5	16
8	Everything I Know About Love/Dolly Alderton (Penguin £8.99) The journalist reflects on growing up, growing older and navigating love (2,055)	12	25
9	Surrounded by Idiots/Thomas Erikson (Vermilion £10.99) How understanding basic types of human behaviour can improve communication (1,940)	11	21
10	The Power of Geography/Tim Marshall (Elliott & Thompson £9.99) A study of ten regions that could define global politics in the future (1,850)	9	45



interests of the Turkish Petroleum Company in 1927.

After the flaming, torchlit jollity of Kurdish Nowruz (new year) celebrations in the mountains of Akre, the mood turns sombre again further south in Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit. Nothing

to do with the Iraqi dictator, but the town is the site of the stomach-churning Camp Speicher massacre in 2014, when Isis jihadists slaughtered 1,700 Shia and non-Muslim army cadets.

At the 9th-century Great Mosque of Samarra Palin's director wants the National Treasure to stand on the completely unprotected summit of its spiralling corkscrew minaret, almost 200ft high. Palin is understandably less keen but can hardly pull out. Selfdeprecatingly he confesses his first fear-struck piece to camera sounds "like someone admitting to a ghastly crime".

This is a whirlwind tour and rollicking romp through eastern Turkey and Iraq – 18 days from start to finish – so there is never time to linger. When the team receive yet another invitation to drink tea with a man manning a checkpoint, Palin notes that "taking tea is a delaying tactic, much appreciated in the Middle East, but deeply abhorrent to workobsessed westerners with a TV series to complete".

#### **He stands** fear-struck on a 200ft-high minaret

Barely have we recovered our breath from the vertiginous ascent of the Great Mosque of Samarra than we are in Baghdad, where the interviews and sightseeing continue. Palin makes the bibliophile's pilgrimage to Mutanabbi Street, traditional home of literary Baghdad, and the famous Shabandar Café, scene of another terrorist attack that killed 26 people in 2007. Iragis are resilient, but they have had to be.

The obligatory stop at Babylon is initially a disappointment until our septuagenarian Python is granted a private tour of the Processional Way, commissioned by the Old Testament antihero Nebuchadnezzar, the Jew-slaying, gold-loving

despot of the 6th century BC. Further south he meets the dwindling community of Marsh Arabs, assaulted by the twin perils of government (Saddam drained the marshes) and climate change.

At Al-Qurnah, north of the port city of Basra, the Tigris meets the Euphrates to form the 120-mile Shatt al-Arab river. Palin's road literally runs out as it elides into a "salt-encrusted wasteland" weirdly marked with large posters commemorating vet more young men martyred in Iraq's endless conflicts. Truth be told, they are one of Iraq's most bountiful crops.

Palin is a positive chap and once back home feels troubled by some of his less enthusiastic observations about Iraq. He admits he has mixed feelings. On the one hand "a palpable feeling of waste, of potential dissipated by war and suffering" and the "virtual invisibility" of women in public life. On the other one of Iraq's greatest redeeming features: its courageous, deeply hospitable and big-hearted people. Tune in to Channel 5 for more.

#### **PAPERBACK OF THE WEEK**

**My Own Worst Enemy** by Robert Edric Swift £9.99



This memoir of the historical novelist Robert Edric's workingclass childhood

in 1960s Sheffield is resolutely unfashionable in its setting and subject matter, but is a classic little gem of the genre, one that summons up with great care a world that is now so unfamiliar that it feels like another planet. Andrew Holgate

ST DIGITAL FOR MORE PICKS, AND OUR CHOICE OF THE BEST OF 2022. **GO TO THESUNDAYTIMES. CO.UK/CULTURE** 

#### Last Weeks in **FICTION HARDBACKS** week top 10 Fairy Tale (Hodder £22) A 17-year-old boy inherits a key to a parallel world where good and evil are at wa The Ink Black Heart/Robert Galbraith 2 (Sphere £25) A popular cartoonist persecuted by a mysterious online figure is found dead (16,210) Act of Oblivion/Robert Harris 3 2 (H Heinemann $\pm 22$ ) The search is on for two men responsible for the murder of King Charles I (12,620) **Babel**/RF Kuang (HarperVoyager £16.99) A student at the prestigious 2 Royal Institute of Translation faces a dilemma (6.870) The Rising Tide/Ann Cleeves 6 2 (Macmillan £20) Vera Stanhope probes the death of a man recently fired after misconduct allegations (5,970) The Marriage Portrait/Maggie O'Farrell (Tinder £25) A reimagining of the life of Lucrezia de' Medici and her battle for survival (4,765) Titans of War/Wilbur Smith and Mark Chadbourn 2 (Zaffre £20) A great spy embarks on a dangerous mission to recruit allies to help defend Egypt (3,460) Lessons in Chemistry/Bonnie Garmus 8 23 (Doubleday £14.99) In 1960s America, a chemist becomes the star of a TV cooking show (3,115) Carrie Soto Is Back/Taylor Jenkins Reid 2 (Hutchinson Heinemann £16.99) A legendary tennis player attempts a comeback (3,095) Small Things Like These/Claire Keegan (Faber £10) A coal merchant encounters the complicit silences of a town controlled by the Church (1,980)

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Т	FICTION PAPERBACKS	Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	It Ends With Us Colleen Hoover (Simon & Schuster £8.99) A first love's reappearance threatens a woman's present relationship (17,605)	1	54
2	How to Kill Your Family/Bella Mackie (Borough £8.99) A woman avenges her mother's death by bumping off her father and his family (12,430)	3	23
3	Where the Crawdads Sing/Delia Owens (Corsair £9.99) The coming-of-age tale of a reclusive girl abandoned by her family (11,845)	2	71
4	<b>Verity</b> /Colleen Hoover (Sphere £8.99) A ghostwriter discovers chilling secrets in her client's unfinished autobiography (11,720)	10	9
5	<b>Ugly Love</b> /Colleen Hoover (Simon & Schuster £8.99) The relationship between "friends with benefits" turns complicated (10,285)	7	25
6	Love on the Brain/Ali Hazelwood (Sphere £8.99) A scientist lands her dream job, but must work alongside her arch-nemesis (9,350)	8	3
7	The Man Who Died Twice/Richard Osman (Penguin £8.99) Stolen diamonds worth £20 million cause chaos for the Thursday Murder Club (9,110)	5	18
8	<b>The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo</b> / <i>Taylor Jenkins Reid</i> (Simon & Schuster £8.99) An ageing Hollywood icon reflects on her relentless rise to the top (7,580)	6	23
9	Apples Never Fall/Liane Moriarty (Penguin £8.99) The adult children of a missing woman aren't sure of their father's innocence (7,545)	9	9
10	The Thursday Murder Club/Richard Osman (Penguin £8.99) Four friends in a retirement village team up to solve a murder on their doorstep (6,925)	13	62

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	FICTION PAPERBACKS	Last week	Weeks in top 10		MANUALS	
	It Ends With Us Colleen Hoover (Simon & Schuster £8.99) A first love's reappearance threatens a woman's present relationship (17,605)	1	54	Last week 1 Weeks in top 10 2	One Jamie Oliver (M Joseph £28) Recipes with eight ingredients or fewer that can be cooked in one pan (30,945)	
2	How to Kill Your Family/Bella Mackie (Borough £8.99) A woman avenges her mother's death by bumping off her father and his family (12,430)	3	23	<b>2</b> Last week	Cook and Share Mary Berry (BBC £27)	
3	Where the Crawdads Sing/Delia Owens (Corsair £9.99) The coming-of-age tale of a reclusive girl abandoned by her family (11,845)	2	71	2 Weeks	A collection of the TV baker and chef's favourite dishes to cook and share	
1	<b>Verity</b> /Colleen Hoover (Sphere £8.99) A ghostwriter discovers chilling secrets in her client's unfinished autobiography (11,720)	10	9	<b>3</b> Last	with loved ones (5,550)  Real Life Recipes Tom Kerridge	
- )	<b>Ugly Love</b> /Colleen Hoover (Simon & Schuster £8.99) The relationship between "friends with benefits" turns complicated (10,285)	7	25	week 3 Weeks	(Absolute £26) Budget-friendly everyday recipes from the Michelin-starred chef	
3	Love on the Brain/Ali Hazelwood (Sphere £8.99) A scientist lands her dream job, but must work alongside her arch-nemesis (9,350)	8	3	4	(4,495)  Jane's Patisserie:	
7	The Man Who Died Twice/Richard Osman (Penguin £8.99) Stolen diamonds worth £20 million cause chaos for the Thursday Murder Club (9,110)	5	18	6	Celebrate! Jane Dunn (Ebury £20) The baker and blogger's new recipe collection (2,540)  Nadiya's Everyday Baking Nadiya Hussain (M Joseph £25)	
3	The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo/Taylor Jenkins Reid (Simon & Schuster £8.99) An ageing Hollywood icon reflects on her relentless rise to the top (7,580)	6	23			
)	Apples Never Fall/Liane Moriarty (Penguin £8.99) The adult children of a missing woman aren't sure of their father's innocence (7,545)	9	9	<b>5</b> Last week 8		
0	The Thursday Murder Club/Richard Osman (Penguin £8.99) Four friends in a retirement village team up to solve a murder on their doorstep (6.925)	13	62		The Great British Bake Off winner's bakes for every day of the week (2,460)	

#### **BOOKS**

# What made Terry tick?

Pratchett's magical mind, and dementia, by the man who knew him best

#### **BIOGRAPHY**

#### **Sarah Ditum**

#### **Terry Pratchett** A Life with Footnotes

by Rob Wilkins
Doubleday £25 pp448

Terry Pratchett once spoke of him and Rob Wilkins "sharing a brain". Even considering the 20 years they worked together (15 of them with Wilkins acting as Pratchett's personal assistant), this was a relationship of exceptional intimacy.

Since Pratchett's death in 2015 at the age of 66, Wilkins (alongside Pratchett's daughter, Rhianna) has tended the Pratchett estate – acting, in Rhianna's words, "as an emergency pop-up Pratchett". Wilkins is so close to his subject, it's tempting to imagine his biography of Pratchett is really the subject's first-hand account dictated from beyond the grave.

Adding to the perception, there are extensive quotes here from Pratchett's own notes towards an unfinished autobiography. The reason that autobiography was never written is the same reason Wilkins and Pratchett eventually shared a brain. In 2007 Pratchett – author of more than 50 bestselling novels, a man of piercing intelligence and unstinting wit – was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's.

Pratchett faced his sentence with unusual bravery. He spoke about it publicly. He invited a film crew to record him. He campaigned for medical research, and for assisted dying. At the same time he continued to produce novels – with Wilkins to take dictation, physically assist him (there's no

squeamishness here about the messy reality of dementia) and eventually to speak on his behalf at events.

At one point Pratchett dreamt his brain was made of grey sand and Wilkins was trying to catch it in his hands. It's an apt image for the desperate cruelty of the disease, and this part is the best bit of the book: a moving and acutely observed account of loving someone who is disappearing in front of you, and who on their best days is well aware that they're disintegrating.

It's also, in the latter section, not strictly a biography but rather Wilkins's memoir of his last years with Pratchett. The rest of the book is weaker, through no fault of Wilkins's. Author biographies have an inherent problem, which is that writing is, in most cases, a very undramatic occupation. Terry Pratchett wrote a lot two novels annually most years between 1987 and 2007 – which left very little time for anything else.

By disposition he seems to have been far too nice of a man to have any skeletons. This is a man who got married to his first girlfriend, Lyn, at the age of 20 and who ever after was "the most married person you were ever likely to meet". His hobbies included homebrewing, electronics and beekeeping. And, on top of his extraordinary writing output, he dedicated weeks each year to promotional tours and conventions, earning him the reciprocal devotion of his fans.

He liked to make the observation that "it's hard to read a lot of science fiction and be a bigot", and while it may not be a very well-supported claim empirically (Pratchett, as a huge reader of sci-fi and fantasy, would

**World apart** An illustration of Terry Pratchett by Paul Kidby

surely have been aware of counterexamples such as HP Lovecraft), it speaks of the generous humanism that animated Pratchett's work.

That all fed the public perception of Pratchett as,

in his fellow fantasy author Neil Gaiman's words, "a jolly old elf". But it was only a partial truth, Gaiman pointed out: there was anger in Pratchett too, and Wilkins writes that he experienced Pratchett's "anger in all the 57 varieties" during their time together.

What did Pratchett have to be angry about? A few things. He retained "a lingering contempt for the school system" based on his own experience of the petty tyrannies of his teachers. A working-class boy who was shy with his fellow pupils ("a bit weird", in his own words), Pratchett excelled outside the classroom, where he immersed himself in books: early passions for GK Chesterton and JRR Tolkien are clearly reflected in the comic fantasy of Pratchett's Discworld novels.

Later, after he had become a publishing phenomenon, he would be angered by what he saw as unprofessional journalism (his background in the local press gave him a proprietorial attitude here). He would be angered by inadequate bookshop set-ups for signings (and recorded this anger in exhaustive reports, which are reproduced here with perhaps more faithfulness than is strictly required).

He would be angry about being condescended to: the literary world's snobbery about his genre rankled with him, and even more so when his fans were being sneered at. And he was angry about being displaced as Britain's bestselling author, when JK Rowling took his crown with her Harry Potter series. Pratchett, half-jokingly, would write the boy wizard's name with the vowels asterisked out.

Overall, though, this book hardly shows Pratchett in a new light. Instead it reveals him in sometimes punishing detail: even the most devoted Discworld fan might be tempted to skip the blow-by-blow accounts of merchandise development.

What's lacking here is insight. Pratchett's unparalleled drive remains a mystery. His alchemical creativity goes unexplained. Perhaps that's as it must be: genius as a kind of magic, beyond the reach of biographer to comprehend. If you want to understand Pratchett, the place to begin is where it always was: with those brilliant, ebullient novels.

Rob Wilkins appears at The Times and The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival on Sunday, October 16

#### **FICTION**

#### **Peter Kemp**

**Nights of Plague** by Orhan Pamuk, trans Ekin Oklap Faber £20 pp682

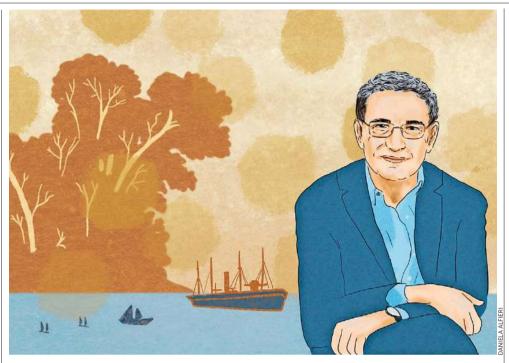
The death throes of the Ottoman Empire have given rise to a lot of lively literature. Strangled sultans, poisoned pashas, hatreds in the harem and skulduggery under the star and crescent have sent frissons through innumerable exotically located thrillers.

Politically conscious novels such as Barry Unsworth's *Pascali's Island* (1980) and its successor *The Rage of the Vulture* (1982) vividly spotlit the Sublime Porte's weakening hold on its 600-year-old gaudy patchwork of empire as growing nationalisms and sectarian tensions pulled it apart.

With Nights of Plague, the Nobel laureate Orhan Pamuk moves into the genre with masterly assurance. It is 1901 and, under cover of darkness, a ship is approaching Mingheria, an island fabricated by Pamuk as the 29th province of the Ottoman empire. Aboard are newlyweds Princess Pakize, the daughter of a deposed sultan, and her husband, Nuri Bey, a distinguished quarantine doctor. As the island's moonlit skyline comes into view, torchlight flickers from a window in its ancient castle, where a luckless plague victim is fighting for his life.

It's an opening redolent of Orientalist sensation fiction - and the novel has much more to offer in the same vein: ratsbane in rose-scented biscuits, kidnappings and assassinations, a cruelly curtailed rapturous love affair, bandits in mountain villages, murderously malcontent dervishes in mosques, public executions, and an ironclad ring of battleships dispatched by the Great Powers to blockade the plague-stricken island from the rest of the world.

All this is just one facet of a multi-angled book. In a preface, its fictional narrator explains that it is a work in which she aims to merge the imaginative rights of a novelist with the factual responsibilities of a historian. Drawing extensively on letters she has



# On plague island

A community riven by disease in the last days of Ottoman rule is brilliantly evoked by this Nobel-winning master of literature

**Setting sail** The Nobel laureate Orhan Pamuk

edited that Pakize wrote to her sister in Istanbul, her story moves in and out of the minds of numerous other figures embroiled in a struggle against a rat-borne pandemic that plunges Mingheria into escalating terror and turmoil.

Written by a princess responding with rapt alertness to the wider world after being kept under palace arrest on the Bosphorus for 25 years, Pakize's letters are praised for their "narrative appetite... awareness of detail... descriptive flair". The tributes equally apply to Pamuk's novel. A masterpiece of evocation, it conjures up its imaginary island with superb fullness and immediacy.

Skills displayed in *Istanbul* (2003), Pamuk's haunting

The island comes alive in teeming profusion

commemoration of a city steeped in post-imperial melancholy amid crumbling reminders of its Byzantine and Ottoman supremacy, are first gorgeously, then grimly, redeployed. Sensuousness wafts beguilingly from scenes of Mingheria in its healthful prime – "the scent of honeysuckle and pine trees" on its slopes, its "lindenscented backstreets" and headily rose-blossomed gardens – only to be harshly quenched by the stench of Lysol and lime as desperate attempts to halt the plague get under way.

Never a minimalist, Pamuk has sometimes carried copious documentation to unusual extremes (to complement his 2008 novel The Museum of Innocence, he set up a museum where exhibits included the 4,213 cigarette butts supposedly smoked by its heroine). In Nights of Plague this compulsion towards comprehensiveness burgeons into something spectacular. Mingheria comes alive – and faces devastation from plague - in teeming profusion, from its grand staterooms to its hospitals, prison cells and fetid alleys. Doctors, pharmacists,

soldiers, spies, guileful foreign consuls and charlatan sheikhs proffering plague-repellent prayer sheets swarm through its pages. Around them its narrator opens up fact-filled digressions on everything from 19th-century European politics to Louis Pasteur and bacteriology, homicidal intrigues at the Ottoman court and the detective fiction of Conan Doyle, to which Pakize's paranoid and devious uncle, the sultan Abdul Hamid, is addicted.

A murder-mystery sub-plot featuring the deductive techniques of Sherlock Holmes adds to the novel's rich variety. There is gruesomeness in abundance, but there is also welcome humour, which Ekin Oklap's supple translation from the Turkish nicely brings out. After events in Mingheria bring secession from Istanbul, near-farce accompanies the ensuing surge of folksy nationalism – kitsch patriotic paintings and postage stamps, and a vogue for authentically archaic names.

The eruption of the Covid crisis towards the end of Pamuk's five-year writing of his novel has given present pertinence to its tale of past pestilence, long-ago lockdowns, disastrous political dithering, crackpot disease deniers and defiers, recalcitrant resistance to life-saving strategies and heroic medical persistence. But it's as a magnificent panorama of the last days of the Ottoman Empire that this outstanding addition to Pamuk's fictional surveys of Turkishness will enthrallingly endure.



The spirit of Elena Ferrante haunts this tale of a friendship forged in Karachi

# Two lives intertwined

#### **FICTION**

#### **Robert Collins**

#### **Best of Friends**

*by Kamila Shamsie* Bloomsbury £16.99 pp336

Over the course of seven novels Kamila Shamsie has distinguished herself as a masterly and lyrical crafter of explosive dramas in which human fates intertwine across time and geography. In her exquisite 2009 novel *Burnt Shadows* her Japanese protagonist loses her fiancé to the atomic bomb in Nagasaki, and later has a son who will become radicalised in Afghanistan and embroiled in the detonations of 9/11.

A cataclysmic explosion also appeared in Shamsie's London-set novel *Home*  Fire (2017), which brilliantly recast the story of Antigone in the tinderbox of British Isis converts and seedy post-Brexit politics.

In Best of Friends, Shamsie's first novel since winning the Women's prize for Home Fire, she has returned to her native Karachi, the setting of her first four novels, with an intimate, smaller-scale story of two intensely close Pakistani friends, Zahra Ali and Maryam Khan, over several decades.

The waiting explosion here is an ill-fated choice made by the two friends when they are schoolmates at a privileged Karachi school in the 1980s, a decision that will have repercussions as we rejoin them 20 years on, ensconced in their equally privileged lives in London, where Zahra is now the director of a civil



**Bonded** Two girls feature in Kamila Shamsie's latest novel

liberties NGO and Maryam is a successful venture capitalist.

There are clear shades of Elena Ferrante's Neapolitan novels in Shamsie's tracing of this polarised, long-running friendship: Maryam is the bolder of the pair and from a wealthy family; Zahra is the more timid and (slightly) less well-to-do.

The Karachi-set opening to Shamsie's drama is beautifully vivid and personal, blending adolescent lightness with political darkness. Shamsie – like Ferrante – sets her heroines' sexual and political awakening against a backdrop of political eruption (in this case Benazir Bhutto's sudden ascent to power), and envelops her protagonists in a murk of patriarchy, at once suffocating and protective.

Shamsie presses hard on the notion that Maryam and Zahra, as part of a male power network stretching from 1980s Karachi to present-day Britain, have been deprived of autonomy over their futures, principally because of their ill-judged decision as teenagers. Yet as the second half of the novel unfolds in London, a sense of their disenfranchisement and of their thwarted destinies becomes ever trickier to accept. To many, they will appear as effortlessly entitled women bestriding the world. "How little the ruling class in England had changed over the centuries," Maryam bemoans at one point – as she stands next to the British prime minister before asking him to fix a professional problem for her.

In Shamsie's retelling of Greek tragedy in this novel's predecessor, the characters felt driven by something elemental. Here the central relationship, for some, may not quite convince, and the themes of exclusion and identity risk being undermined by what are ultimately high-class, first-world problems. The result - minor-key and cosy, rather than cataclysmic – feels arguably less Sophocles and a little more Richard Curtis.

Kamila Shamsie is at The Times and Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival on Oct 7

#### A Bond story without Bond — and Q is now a computer

## THRILLERS ROUND-UP



Kim Sherwood's Double or Nothing (HarperCollins £20) is a boldly innovative James Bond novel that introduces a trio of new MI6 spooks: the former medic Johanna (003), black, gay Joseph (004) and British-Asian Sid (009). Their enemies are a tech zillionaire posing as a climate messiah and a rapacious group of terrorist mercenaries. M, Moneypenny, Bill Tanner and Felix Leiter are all still operational, with Moneypenny overseeing the double-0 team and leading a mole hunt.

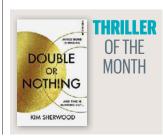
Although missing, feared dead, Bond remains active too.

Bond book sequels tend to be set in the past so as to stick with Ian Fleming's 007, who would now be about 100; Sherwood instead follows the movies – the setting is today yet her characters have somehow defied ageing.

Also a potential obstacle for traditionalists is that multiple agents mean multiple storylines rather than Fleming's Bond-centric linearity. Yet I suspect most will forgive Sherwood because she rises impressively to all the challenges of the formula - the cliffhangers, the exotic locations, the wry specificity about lifestyle and weaponry brands, the blend of "kiss kiss" and "bang bang" while adding ideas such as making Q a quantum computer and putting the climate crisis at her remarkable thriller's centre.

Described as "psychological gothic", **Erin Kelly**'s *The Skeleton Key* (Hodder £16.99) involves a cult illustrated book that, like the real 1970s phenomenon *Masquerade*, inspired a treasure hunt. Fifty years after his bestseller came out, Frank, a distinguished artist, unveils the last of the golden "bones" devotees were hunting for. The televised stunt goes horribly wrong, though, and in the aftermath the dirty secrets of Frank, his pal Lal and their families are exposed.

Kelly's realisation of periods stretching back to the 1960s is



flawless, and her saga of sex, art, fame, money, egos and damaged children is intriguing, but it's the psychological thriller strand centred on Frank's daughter Nell that makes it moreish.

Tick Tock (Doubleday £14.99) imagines an outbreak of a mysterious disease that causes those afflicted to emit clicks from their ears and eventually go deaf. This is a global crisis but is seen in **Simon Mayo**'s third novel through the eyes of three Londoners: Kit, an English teacher, his daughter Rosie and his partner, Lilly, a vaccine researcher.

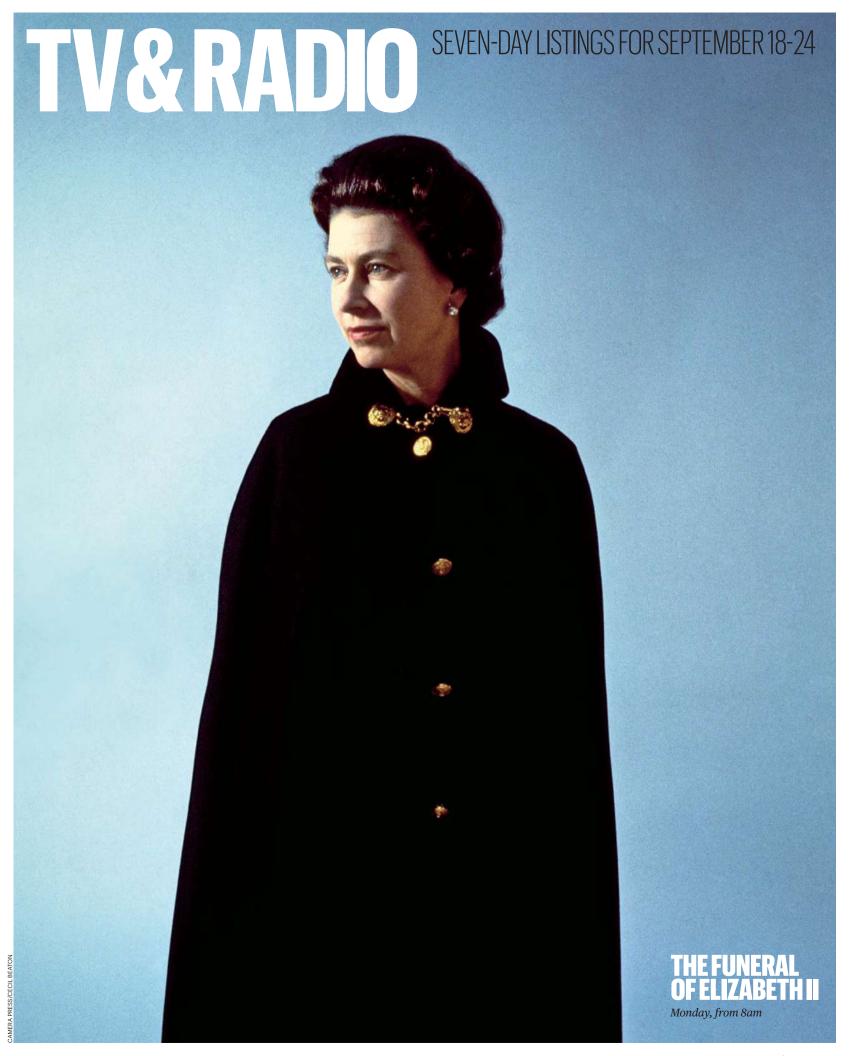
Cleverly and credibly, Mayo turns his medical thriller into something of a spy thriller too, as Lilly makes discoveries in Salisbury about her estranged father's life. Yet it's the family trio who are the best thing in the radio DJ's book – their dialogue is a joy throughout, and you may feel that having

joint heroes such as them is preferable to another tale of a lone bloke battling against the collapse of civilisation.

A peer and junior minister disappears in Crete in **Alan Johnson**'s *One of Our Ministers Is Missing* (Wildfire £20). Louise, a top Met cop, flies out to work with a Greek colleague on the case. Meanwhile, Brady, a hitman, risks police attention by taking on a gang who burnt down a friend's café.

Johnson's likeable 2021 debut, about an innocent caught up in spy shenanigans, was reminiscent of old movies; this well-crafted follow-up is much closer to the crime fiction norm. So it's more plausible but less charming, and the former politician has to decide which way to jump next – to a series with Louise, or back to recalling Ealing comedy and Hitchcock?

John Dugdale



#### BBC2

#### **CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5**

- **6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports. 7.35 Match Of The Day Action. (R) 9.00 Sunday With Laura
- Kuenssberg Interviews. 10.00 Politics News and discussion.
- 10.30 Sunday Morning Live 11.30 Homes Under The Hammer Properties at auction. (R)
- 12.00 News; Weather Reports. 12.15 MOTD — Women's Super
  - League: Aston Villa v Manchester City. All the action from the top-flight encounter, live at Villa Park. Kickoff is at 12.30.
- 2.35 Escape To The Country (R)
- 3.05 FILM: Finding Dory With the voice of Ellen DeGeneres. Nemo and his father set out to help their forgetful friend Dory find her parents. Likeable animation. (2016, U)
- 4.35 Frozen Planet II David Attenborough explores frozen regions around the world. (R)
- 5.00 News; Weather Reports. 5.30 Regional News; Weather
- 6.00 Countryfile In an edition first shown in 2018 from the Balmoral estate, Matt Baker visits Glamis castle, and Ellie Harrison explores Ballochbuie Forest.
- 7.00 The Eve Of The State Funeral Of HM Queen Elizabeth II 8.00 A National Minute's Silence For HM The Queen
- 8.05 CHOICE Frozen Planet II A look at the wildlife of the Arctic Ocean, including polar bears, harp seals and bowhead whales; and how the region is warming faster than anywhere else on the Earth. (See Critics' choice)
- 9.05 CHOICE Bloodlands Return of the crime thriller, with James Nesbitt, Charlene McKenna and Lisa Dwan. The body of an accountant is found on the shores of Strangford Lough, and Tom and Niamh are assigned to the case. (Series 2, ep 1: see Critics' choice)
- 10.05 News; Weather Reports. 11.00 Regional News: Weather 11.05 Match Of The Day 2 The
- day's Premier League action. 11.50 The Women's Football Show Super League highlights
- 12.30 Question Of Sport (R) 1.05-6.00 Joins BBC News

SCOTLAND 10.00 The Sunday Show. 11.45 Sportscene Premiership Highlights. 12.45 The Women's Football Show. 1.30 Question Of Sport. 2.05 BBC News.

- 6.35 Gardeners' World (R) 7.35 Countryfile Anita Rani catches up with the fashion designer Patrick Grant. (R)
- 8.30 Beechgrove Gardening. (R) 9.00 Coast Great Guides: North
- Sea Coast. Lindisfarne. (R)

  10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites 11.30 Nadiva's Everyday Baking (R) 12.00 The Great British
  - Countryside A tour of the South Downs with Hugh Dennis and Julia Bradbury. (R)
  - 1.00 Points Of View Opinions. 1.15 Songs Of Praise Worship.
  - 1.50 Natural World Wildlife. (R) 2.35 World Road Championships
- Time Trial Highlights (R) 4.05 Super League Playoff Highlights The semi-finals.
- 5.05 Flog It! Selling valuables. (R) 6.00 Saving Lives At Sea On Ireland's northwest coast, the
- RNI I crew at Bundoran races to the rescue of a teenage girl who has been swept out to sea by a rip-current. (R) 7.00 This Farming Life New series.
- Emma and Ewan move to their forever farm on the Isle of Bute, while cousins Donald and David prepare for a busy lambing season. (S5, ep 1)
- 8.00 A National Minute's Silence For HM The Queen
- 8.05 CHOICE Stolen Catching The Art Thieves Three paintings stolen at gunpoint from Stockholm's National Museum in 2000 take investigators on a hunt from Russian organised crime to the hills of Hollywood. (2/3; see Critics' choice)
- 9.05 CHOICE Simon Reeve's South America The adventurer travels through Brazil, visiting a neglected indigenous neighbourhood in Manaus and meeting a nurse who was the only source of healthcare in the pandemic. (See Critics' choice)
- 10.05 How To With John Wilson Exploring the challenges of keeping an object in pristine condition. (Series 1, ep 4)
- 10.30 Cricket Women's ODI **Highlights** The first contest in the three-match series between England and India.
- 11.00 Rugby League Super League playoff highlights.
- 12.00 World Road Championships Action from the men's and women's cycling time trials.
- 12.55-1.55 The Boys From Brazil **Rise Of The Bolsonaros** Documentary. (Signed, R)

- 6.00 Children's Shows Fun.
- 9.25 News; Weather Reports. 9.30 Love Your Weekend Alan Titchmarsh welcomes Omid
- Djalili and Floella Benjamin. 11.25 English Football League
- Highlights Action. (R)

  1.20 News; Weather Update.
- 1.30 You've Been Framed (R)
- 2.00 Goodwood Revival 4.00 Tipping Point — Lucky Stars
- With Gaby Roslin, Sean Fletcher and JJ Chalmers. (R) 5.00 Ninja Warrior — Race For
- Glory More competitors take on the obstacle course. (R)
- 6.00 News; Weather Update.
- 6.15 Regional News Headlines. 6.30 Celebrity Lingo With guests Charlotte Church, Carvs Eleri and Clare Balding.
- 7.30 Gino's Italy Like Mamma Used To Make Gino D'Acampo heads to Tuscany and reveals a very different side of this much-visited region, one that is steeped in medieval heritage and its
- linked culinary customs. 8.00 Ridley During an active investigation, Alex makes a shocking discovery linking the current case with the arson attack that killed his family. (Last in series)
- 10.00 News; Weather Update. 10.20 DNA Journey Britain's Got Talent judge Amanda Holden and the comedian Alan Carr embark on journeys across the country as they delve into their family histories, unlocking secrets of the past. (Series 2, ep 2, R)
- 11.35 Premiership Rugby Union Highlights Action from the second round of fixtures, including Harlequins v Saracens, Northampton Saints v London Irish.
- 12.25 Teleshopping Goods. 3.00 Motorsport UK (R)
- **3.50 Unwind** Daily relaxation. 5.05-6.00 Tenable Quiz. (R)



We all scream for ... (C4, 8.01pm)

- 6.25 The King Of Queens (R) 7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond
- Family comedy series. (R) 8.30 The Simpsons Cartoon. (R)
- 9.30 Sunday Brunch With Emily
- Atack, Les Dennis and Chunkz,
- 12.30 The Simpsons Cartoon. (R)
  1.35 The Great British Bake Off Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas welcome 12 new hopefuls. (R)
- 2.05 FILM: Deep Impact Stars Robert Duvall. A reporter investigating a presidential misdemeanour stumbles on evidence that a comet is on a collision course with the Earth. Watchable. (1998, 12)
- 5.25 The Dog House Canines. (R) 6.25 News; Weather Reports.
- 7.00 Grand Designs Kevin McCloud follows a couple building a unique home near a West Sussex estuary. turning a swampy pond into a biodiverse waterscape and floating the house above it. (R)
- 8.00 One Minute's Silence In memory of Her Majesty Queen Élizabeth II.
- 8.01 The Secret World Of: Ice Cream. New series. Jo Brand tells the nostalgic story of how Britain fell in love with ice-cream, in an episode that peeks behind the curtain of the nation's favourite frozen treat. (Series 2, ep 1)
- 9.05 Celebrity SAS Who Dares Wins Entering the next phase, the celebrities face a series of tasks that will test their resilience to the max, in teams led by the fiercely competitive brothers Curtis and AJ Pritchard.
- 10.05 Gogglebox The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week, with cameras capturing their instant reactions. (R)
- 11.00 FILM: The Hobbit The **Desolation Of Smaug Stars** Martin Freeman, Ian McKellen, Richard Armitage and Orlando Bloom. The dwarves and hobbits face the dragon that stole their homeland. Spectacular fantasy sequel. (2013, 12)
- 1.45 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA Advising a
- restaurant in California. (R) 2.35 Couples Come Dine With Me
- Parties in Staffordshire. (R) 3.25 Hollyoaks Chester soap. (R)
- 5.25 Kirstie's House Of Craft (R)
- 5.35-6.10 Drawers Off (R)

- 6.00 Milkshake! Fun for children.
- 10.00 The Smurfs Cartoon. (R) 10.10 Spongebob Animation. (R)
- 10.25 Entertainment News Gossip.
- 10.30 NFL End Zone Action. 11.00 Friends American sitcom. (R)
- 1.00 Cash In The Attic Curios. (R)
- 2.00 FILM: Any Which Way You Can Stars Clint Eastwood and Sondra Locke. A trucker and his orang-utan become targets of the mafia. Tortuous comedy sequel. (1980, 15)
- 4.15 FILM: Joe Kidd Stars Clint Eastwood. A bounty hunter hired to capture a Mexican rebel starts to question his employer's cruel methods. Unsatisfying. (1972, 15)
- 6.00 Happy Campers The Caravan Park At Tencreek holiday park in Looe, Cornwall, new Yellow Coats make their debuts as park mascots Deano and Sparky. (S1, ep 2, R)
- 7.00 Billionaire Resorts On Holiday With The Super Rich Exploring the French Riviera, starting at the Hotel Martinez in Cannes, where guests arrive by helicopter and speedboat and staff work relentlessly to maintain the glossy veneer. (3/6)
- **8.00 Million Pound Motorhomes** Angellica Bell takes a one-day motorhome-manoeuvring course in Surrey; and a man who works out of his motorhome organises a festival for the campervan community. (Series 3, ep 9)
- 9.00 CHOICE Colin & Justin's Hotel Hell New series. Colin McAllister and Justin Ryan overhaul and reopen a hotel on the Atlantic coast of Canada, with their first project being to design and transform one of the guest
- suites. (See Critics' choice) 10.00 Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun Featuring the couple who run the Last Chance Animal Rescue Centre, which cares for abandoned animals. (R)
- 11.00 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments In Pop Incidents involving musicians. (R)
- 12.55 Entertainment News Gossip. 1.05 Casualty 24/7 — Every Second Counts Incidents. (R)
- 2.05 Ambulance Code Red (R) 2.55 Trawlermen — Celebs At
- Sea Challenge. (R) 4.30 Now That's Funny! (R)
- 5.25 Entertainment News Gossip.
- 5.30-6.00 Children's Shows

#### **VARIATIONS**

ITV WALES 7.30 The Mart. A look at the post-lambing season restart of the weekly market BBC1 WALES 2.35 FILM: Finding Dory. With the voice of Ellen DeGeneres 4.05 Our Lives: We Are Strong Women. Two women in training for Wales' Strongest Woman 4.35 Iolo — A Wild Life **5.05** Wales' Home Of The Year 11.45 Transfer — The Fate Of Emiliano Sala 12.15 The Women's Football Show BBC2 WALES 6.00 Scrum V 7.00 Mothers, Missiles And The American President 10.55 Full House **\$4C 6.00** Cyw: Bing **6.10** Twt **6.20** Do Re Mi Dona **6.35** Amser Maith Maith Yn Ol 6.50 Fferm Fach 7.00 Cei Bach 7.15 Guto Gwningen 7.30 Sbarc **7.45** Digbi Draig **7.55** Sigldigwt 8.10 Octonots 8.25 Cacamwnci **8.40** Blero Yn Mynd I Ocido 8.50 Penblwyddi Cyw 9.00 Garddio A Mwy 9.30 Welsh Whisperer — Ni'n Teithio Nawr! 10.00 Y Fets 11.00 Cegin Bryn — Yn Ffrainc 11.30 Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol 12.30 Gwyliau Gartref 1.00 Rygbi Pawb 1.45 Gwesty Aduniad

2.45 Cynefin 3.45 Trefi Gwyllt Iolo **4.40** Cheer Am Byth **5.40** Cefn Gwlad 6.10 Pobol Y Cwm Omnibws **7.15** Newyddion A Chwaraeon **7.30** Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol. Lisa is in Cardiff visiting a centre for asylum seekers and refugees 8.00 Prosiect Pum Mil. Emma Walford and Trystan Ellis-Morris help staff in the Hafan y Waun centre **9.00** Bryn Fon — Chwilio Am Feibion Glyndwr. The cottage arson campaign of the 1980s 10.00 Y Babell Len A Mwy 11.00-11.35 Codi Pac



While watching the Arena production on Joyce's Ulysses (BBC2), I experienced a growing feeling of annoyance occasioned by irrelevant music constantly intruding on the narrative. I would be intrigued to hear Howard Jacobson's thoughts on his contribution being set to music.

#### **Jim Coombes**

Please, producers: can't you see that the excessive use of such music is often irritating and almost always entirely superfluous?

Simon Evers

#### LISTINGS MAY BE SUBJECT TO LATE CHANGES

#### **SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER**

#### **CRITICS' CHOICE**

#### Frozen Planet II (BBC1, 8.05pm)

Going straight in with the big-ticket polar bear cubs, this sequel to the 2011 series does not hesitate to make an icy splash. In this episode, David Attenborough narrates scenes from the Arctic Ocean, an area bigger than the whole of the USA. The scenery is dream-like and the animals are often magical – not least the polar bears dancing on ice, or the underrated walrus - but there is also violence and despair. Killer whales do nothing for their reputation as they conspire to drown a whale calf, eating only its "soft fatty tongue"; more unnatural, however, is the impact of climate change, a harp seal pup floating out to sea on ice, a bleak image of a melting world. Victoria Segal



Sealed with a kiss: a harp pup receives a swimming lesson from its mother (BBC1, 8.05pm)

#### The three amigos ride again

#### The Grand Tour Presents: A Scandi Flick (Amazon)

While the BBC perpetually revamps *Top Gear* in search of an elusive knockout formula, it is instructive to watch Clarkson, May and Hammond and their one-off road trips, and marvel at everything they get right. This time, they are traversing Scandinavia, and with its challenges and three clearly defined flawed characters, **The Grand Tour** is now structured more like a Hollywood buddy movie. With age and experience has come a vulnerability and a humility in the way these blustering petrolheads now carry themselves. Their extended brands (Clarkson's Farm, May's Our Man In ... series) have added light and shade to our grasp of them and we care about these blokeish comics in a way we never did before. Andrew Male

#### Colin & Justin's Hotel Hell (C5, 9pm)

Colin McAllister and Justin Ryan are Scottish interior designers who have been based in Toronto for the past decade; but here they quit the city to pursue the dream (mainly Justin's, as Colin is less keen but loyal) of running a hotel. It is one they have bought for Can\$1 million (£660,000) on the Nova Scotia coast, with only a one-street village by way of nearby civilisation. As they begin costly renovations, you could be forgiven for expecting to be told that they soon abandoned this mad plan and sold up, if only to save their marriage; but no, they plough on, winter storms arrive, blunders are made and extra costs continue to mount. John Dugdale

#### Bloodlands (BBC1, 9.05pm)

For those who buried the memory of the end to the first series, there is a lengthy pre-credit sequence that reprises the moment Tom Brannick (James Nesbitt) murdered some smugglers. But wait, what's that? There's something golden glinting in the rifle cases! And so the second series begins. *HS* 



Justin and Colin's hell (C5, 9pm)

#### Stolen — Catching The Art Thieves (BBC2, 8.05pm)

On December 22, 2000, an armed gang seized three paintings from Stockholm's Nationalmuseum: two works by Renoir and a 1630 self-portrait by Rembrandt. This high-tension documentary recounts how investigators hunted down the paintings, moving thriller-like from Sweden to Hollywood.

#### Simon Reeve's South America (BBC2, 9.05pm)

The first part of this was filmed in the earliest days of Covid, uneasy viewing knowing what was on the way. On his post-pandemic return to Brazil, Reeve sees the devastation caused by the disease and meets the Amazonian virushunters studying bats. *Victoria Segal* 

#### **FILM CHOICE**

#### Madagascar (ITV2, 5.10pm)

This film has now spawned two sequels, a spin-off movie, three TV series and a selection of live shows. Surely nobody could have predicted that of a very daft and quite modest animated comedy. It centres on four New York Zoo animals that are accidentally stranded on the island of Madagascar and have to deal with their wild instincts for the first time. The voice cast - Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, Iada Pinkett-Smith, David Schwimmer, Sacha Baron Cohen – is inspired and the jokes are absolutely packed in. It's not Pixar-level creative, but it is a lot of fun. (2005)

#### The Voyage Of The Dawn Treader (E4, 1.05pm)

The 2000s *Chronicles of Narnia* series never really found its groove, and this, the third film, was its last. It's far from a disaster, though, with confident direction by Michael Apted and strong performances from the young cast, most notably Will Poulter. (2010) *Olly Richards* 



Plain sailing? Poulter (E4, 1.05pm)

#### ON DEMAND

#### The Epic Adventures Of Bertie Gregory (Disney+)

Despite pushing 30, this awardwinning wildlife film-maker and *National Geographic* explorer still looks to be around 17. Enthusiastic and ebullient, he is being touted as the new fresh face of wildlife television and. if you can rein in your envy long enough. you might agree. Each episode is a perfectly constructed adventure as we follow our cheery host on the trail of sharks, eagles, lions and elephants. Whether it's drones, long lenses or nautical cameras, Gregory is all about the kit, so we get to see how he shoots his wildlife and watch his reactions "in the moment". It's very different to the Attenborough approach and feels much more fresh and candid as a result.

#### Doc Martin (Britbox)

It has always felt like Dominic Minghella and Ben Bolt's comedy drama was a cryptic commentary on gentrification, with Martin Clunes as the disaffected metropolitan type forever unhappy in paradise. It also works as a curious cure for stress, as we imagine, over nine picturesque seasons, how much happier we would be in Doc Martin's boots than the crotchety medic himself.

#### Whitstable Pearl (Acorn TV)

Who doesn't love a cosy crime drama? A picturesque village, a shifty antiquarian and you're set for the night. This six-part 2021 adaptation of Julie Wassmer's mystery novels ticks all the right boxes. Kerry Godliman is adorable as single mum, restaurateur and parttime sleuth Pearl Nolan, while Frances Barber is a delight as her opinionated mum. Andrew Male

#### Top Hat (BBC iPlayer)

There's no day that can't be improved by some Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. This is the biggest hit of their partnership and deservedly so. Astaire plays an American tap dancer who falls head-over-clicking-heels for a model (Rogers). The screwball comedy, which sees many a romantic mix-up, is second to the dancing, which is sublime. Dir: Mark Sandrich (1935) *OR* 

#### BBC3

- 7.00pm EastEnders Double bill. 8.00 A National Minute's Silence For HM The Queen
- 8.05 Hot Cakes Insights.
- 8.35 Sky High Club Scotland And Beyond Cass has a flying lesson, but the pressure of balancing work and study weighs on her mind and she seeks advice.
- 9.00 FILM: A Simple Favour Stars Anna Kendrick and Blake Lively. A fashion companyis PR director goes missing, so her friend tries to get to the bottom of the mystery. Fun thriller. (2018, 15)
- 10.55 Meet The Khans: Big In Bolton Reality series.
- 1.55 The Rap Game UK The final week sees the three remaining artists perform for the last time. (Last in series)
  3.00 Dubai Hustle (Series 2, ep 2)

3.30-4.00 Hot Cakes Insights.

#### **DRAMA**

#### 11.25 Great Expectations

Adaptation of the Dickens novel, with Gillian Anderson and Oscar Kennedy. (1/3) 12.50 Great Expectations
Pip finds himself in debt owing to his expensive taste. 2.05 Great Expectations
Pip is devastated to learn the truth from Magwitch.

- 3.20 Catherine Cookson's The Moth Drama.
- **6.40 Call The Midwife** Drama. **8.00 Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries** A magician's assistant is killed during a
- show. (Series 3, ep 1) **9.00 Rebus** (Series 2, ep 2)
- **10.35 The Last Detective** (S1, ep 2)
- **12.05 Rebus** (Series 2, ep 1)
- **1.40 The Heart Guy** (S4, ep 1)
- 2.40 A Place To Call Home Drama, (Series 5, ep 5)
- 3.30-4.00 Birds Of A Feather

#### BBC4

- 7.00pm Being Beethoven How the composer's desire for love and family tipped over into obsession. (Last in series)
- 8.00 Akram Khan's Giselle
  A performance by the
  English National Ballet.
- 9.35 Michael Clark's To A Simple, Rock'n'Roll — Song A trio of works by the choreographer.
- 10.30 BBC Introducing Arts: Screengrabbed Too. Huw Stephens presents a selection of short films from emerging artists.
- 11.30 Secrets Of The Museum
  A project manager and her team unframe a gallery of 500-year-old masterpieces.
- 12.30 The Art Mysteries Insights.
  1.00 The Celts Blood, Iron And Sacrifice Documentary.
- 2.00 Being Beethoven
  Insights. (Last in series)
- 3.00-4.00 BBC Introducing Arts: Screengrabbed Too.

#### SKYARTS

- 6.00pm Dean Martin A Legend In Concert Performances.
- 7.00 Elvis Presley A Legend In Concert A collection of the star's TV performances.
- 8.00 A Minute's Silence For The Queen
- **8.00 Music Icons:** Dusty Springfield. A look at the life and career of the singer.
- 8.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents:
  The Creeper. An unknown
  killer is on the loose
- 9.00 I Am Burt Reynolds Family and friends of the Hollywood actor come together to share a variety of memories of his life and fruitful career
- **10.45 The Directors** The life and career of Jonathan Demme.
- 11.45-12.45 Liam Gallagher 48
  Hours At Rockfield The singer
  spends time at Rockfield
  Studios in Monmouthshire.

#### ITV2

- **5.10pm CHOICE Madagascar**With the voice of Ben Stiller.
  Animation. (2005, U; includes
  FYI Daily: see Film choice)
- **6.55 FILM: Rampage** Stars Dwayne Johnson. Fantasy. (2018, 12; includes FYI Daily)
- 9.00 Family Guy Peter enjoys Bonnie's cooking. (Series 20, ep 6) 9.30 Family Guy Angry baby Stewie finds himself reborn into a British household. (Series 12, ep 21)
- 10.00 Family Guy Peter forms a relationship with an elderly friend of his late mother. (Series 12, ep 12) 10.30 Family Guy Peter and his cronies decide to confront God. 11.00 Family Guy Chris learns he is the heir to Carter's fortune.
- **11.30-12.00 American Dad!**Cartoon. (Series 17, ep 15)

#### ITV4

- **12.00 Darts** Day three of the World Series, live in Amsterdam, featuring the quarter-finals.
- 4.00 Made In Britain Insights.5.00 Minder Two episodes.
- 7.10 The Derby Through The Years Memorable stagings of the race from Epsom Downs.
- **7.30 LaLiga:** Atletico Madrid v Real Madrid. The Spanish top-flight game, live at Civitas Metropolitano. Kickoff 8.00.
- **10.15 Against The Odds** With the midfielder Cesc Fabregas.
- 11.15 FILM: Windtalkers Stars Nicolas Cage. A traumatised soldier protects Navajo code-carriers during the invasion of Saipan. Misfires. (2002, 15; includes FYI Daily)
- 2.00 The Protectors Drama.2.35 Unwind Daily relaxation.
- **3.00-6.00 Teleshopping** Goods.

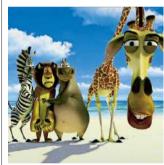
#### ITV3

- 6.00 That's My Boy Sitcom.
- **6.35 Emmerdale** Rural drama **8.50 That's My Boy** Sitcom.
- 8.50 That's My Boy Sitcom.9.20 The Ruth Rendell Mysteries
- Drama. (Series 1, ep 1)

  12.45 Poirot Hastings and a reluctant Poirot attend a grouse shoot. (S3, ep 11) 1.55 Poirot The sleuth tangles with gangsters. (S5, ep 5)
- steals Poirot's heart. (S3, ep 7) **4.10 Wycliffe** The murder of a
  Penzance bookshop owner
  leads the detective to
  uncover a family feud.

3.05 Poirot A beautiful thief

- 6.00 Darts Jacqui Oatley presents live coverage of day three of the World Series at AFAS Live in Amsterdam, featuring the semi-finals and final. With commentary by Stuart Pyke and John Rawling, and interviews from Dan Dawson
- 10.00 The Booze Cruise One-off comedy drama, with Martin Clunes. Five men set off on a shopping trip to a French hypermarket, and the wives back home take advantage of their husbands' absence.
- **12.00 Lewis** A humiliated professor is found dead after her dating video is leaked onto a website. (Series 6, ep 2)
- 2.00 That's My Boy Sitcom.3.40 Emmerdale Rural drama.5.50-6.00 Unwind Relaxation.



Out of Africa (ITV2, 5.10pm)

#### **E4**

- 4.15pm Lego Masters Australia 6.05 Wipeout USA Challenge.
- 7.05 FILM: Failure To Launch
  Stars Sarah Jessica Parker
  and Matthew McConaughey.
  A man will not leave home, so
  his exasperated parents hire
  a woman to entice him out of
  the nest. Awful. (2006, 12)
- 9.00 Married At First Sight UK Unveiled With Michelle Visage, Sam Thompson and Yinka Bokinni.
- **10.00 Rick And Morty** Rick needs to save a trapped Morty. (Series 6, ep 2)
- 10.35 Harley Quinn New series.
  Harley accidentally kidnaps
  the head of the Suicide
  Squad. (Series 3. ep 1)
- 11.00 The Inbetweeners Will is left home alone. (Series 3, ep 5) 11.35-12.10 The Inbetweeners The gang goes on a camping trip.

#### **MORE4**

- 3.40pm Four In A Bed B&B contest.
  6.20 Come Dine With Me The first dinner party in Wigan. 6.50 Come Dine With Me A hairsalon owner prepares the next meal. 7.20 Come Dine With Me A music teacher and funeral singer hosts. 7.55 Come Dine With Me The fourth host plans a 'posh' menu. 8.30 Come Dine With Me A nurse practitioner hosts the final night in Wigan.
- 9.00 9/11 102 Minutes That
  Changed America Footage
  and audiotape recorded by
  people around New York,
  giving an insight into their
  experiences of the attacks
  on the World Trade Center.
- 11.40-12.50 Emergency
  Helicopter Medics Two
  motorcyclists are attended
  by air ambulance crews.

#### **FILMS**

#### SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

12.10pm Marry Me. Two music stars are preparing to get married, but then she learns — seconds before her vows — that he has been unfaithful. (2022, 12) 2.10 Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon (2021, 15) 4.00 Sing 2 (2021, U) 6.00 Belfast. A young boy and his working-class family experience the tumultuous late 1960s in Belfast. (2021, 12) 8.00 Marry Me. Details as 12.10pm. 10.05 Stowaway. A tenacious party girl fights to survive after three thieves commandeer her luxury yacht. (2022, 15) 11.50 Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon (2021, 15) 1.40 The 355 (2022, 12) 4.00-6.00 Belfast. As 6pm.

#### SKY CINEMA THRILLER

2.35pm John Wick. A former assassin is provoked into a rage when a criminal kills his dog. (2014, 15) 4.20 One Shot (2021, 15) 6.00 Patriot Games. A former CIA agent is targeted after foiling a terrorist attack by an IRA group. (1992, 15) 8.00 No Sudden Move. A group of criminals are brought together under mysterious circumstances, and have to uncover what is really going on. (2021, 15) 10.00 John Wick. As 2.35pm. 11.45-2.10 Angels & Demons (2009, 12)

#### SKY CINEMA GREATS

6.10am Oh! What A Lovely War (1969, PG) 8.50 The Spy Who Came In From The Cold (1965, PG) 10.55 Days Of Heaven (1978, PG) 12.45 Three Days Of The Condor (1975, 15) 2.55 A Place In The Sun (1951, PG) 5.10 Cold Mountain. A deserter seeks the woman he loves. (2003, 15) 8.00 The Shawshank Redemption. A banker jailed for his wife's murder befriends a fellow inmate. (1994, 15) 10.25 Killer Joe. A man hires a hitman to kill his mother, but the assassin claims his sister as collateral. (2011, 18) 12.20 Funny Face (1957, U) 2.15 Omen IV — The Awakening (1991, 15) 4.10-6.00 Holiday Inn (1942, U)

#### **SKY CINEMA SELECT**

2.05pm Jason Bourne (2016, 12) 4.10 Monster Hunter (2020, 12) 5.55 Ghostbusters — Afterlife. Supernatural comedy reboot. (2021, 12) 8.00 Top Gun. An arrogant pilot causes conflict when he joins an American navy fighter school. (1986, PG) 9.50 Batman v Superman — Dawn Of Justice. Mutual distrust leads the heroes into a battle to the death. (2016, 12) 12.25 Elysium. A man fights to access a space station inhabited by a wealthy elite. (2013, 15) 2.20 SAS — Red Notice (2021, 15) 4.30-6.00 Extinct (2021, PG)

#### FILM4

11.00am Carry On Cabby (1963, PG)
12.50 The Perfect Catch (2005, PG)
2.55 The Art Of Racing In The Rain (2019, PG) 5.00 Monster Trucks.
A gas-guzzling creature takes up residence in the truck of a high-school pupil. (2016, PG) 7.05 Fantastic Four. Scientists return from another dimension having been granted unusual powers. (2015, 12) 9.00 Indiana Jones And The Temple Of Doom. The intrepid archaeologist travels to India, where he battles to retrieve sacred stones in the possession of an evil cult. (1984, 12) 11.20 Allied (2016, 15) 1.45-4.00 The Nile Hilton Incident (2017, 15)

#### **TALKING PICTURES TV**

3.35pm Sherlock Holmes And The Woman In Green. The Baker Street sleuth and Dr Watson tangle with the devious Professor Moriarty and a beautiful accomplice. (1945, PG) 5.00 The Footage Detectives 6.00 The Saint 7.00 She'll Have To Go. Two brothers who have been written out of their grandmother's will plot to either marry or murder the beneficiary of the family fortune. (1962, U) 9.00 The Onedin Line 10.00-12.10 The Winter Guest. A mother tries to form a close relationship with her daughter. (1997, 15)

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

#### GOLD

7.10am Citizen Khan 8.15 Only Fools And Horses 8.20 Dad's Army 9.00 Billy Connolly Does ... 10.00 The Royle Family 10.55 Ghosts 12.05 Peep Show 1.15 Roger & Val Have Just Got In 2.40 Billy Connolly Does... 3.30-4.00 Desmond's

#### SKY COMEDY

6.00pm Modern Family 7.00 The US Office 8.00 A Minute's Silence For The Queen 8.05 Young Rock 9.00 Bloods 9.30 Curb Your Enthusiasm 10.45 The Rehearsal 11.20 David Cross — The Pride Is Back 12.30 Girls 4.00-5.00 Miracle Workers — Dark Ages

#### SKY WITNESS

6.00pm Nothing To Declare 7.00
Caught On Dashcam 8.00 Bull. TAC represents a man charged with his high-school girlfriend's murder 9.00
Blue Bloods. Frank contends with a potentially dirty cop 10.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Rollins and Fin investigate an assault in Kentucky 11.00 Law & Order: Organized Crime. The task force makes a critical arrest in the case against the Brotherhood 12.00
New Amsterdam 1.00 Blue Bloods 2.00-6.00 Nothing To Declare

#### W

5.40pm My Family 7.00 999 Rescue Squad 8.00 Inside The Operating Theatre 9.00 Killer Women 10.00 Louis Theroux: Life On The Edge 11.10 Louis Theroux: By Reason Of Insanity 1.35 One Born Every Minute Australia 2.35-3.00 Inside The Ambulance

#### 5 STAR

**6.00pm** Police Interceptors **9.00** FILM: Contagion. Stars Matt Damon and Kate Winslet. Thriller **11.20** FILM: The Vanishing. Stars Jeff Bridges and Kiefer Sutherland **1.35** Killer At The Crime Scene **2.35** Judge Judy **3.50-4.00** Entertainment News

#### 5 USA

**5.30pm** Columbo **9.00** Lucifer. The fallen angel questions a priest's sincerity as he fights to save a teenager from drug dealers **10.00** Lucifer. The poisoning of a restaurant owner seems to be a case of patricide **11.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **3.35-4.00** 999 — Criminals Caught On Camera

#### **COMEDY CENTRAL**

8.00am Friends 9.00 FILM: American Pie — The Wedding 10.55 Greatest Ever Movie Blunders 11.55 Key & Peele 12.55 The Ren & Stimpy Show 1.55 South Park 4.10-5.00 Friends

- 6.00 Cristo Morning update. 7.00 David Bull A look at the biggest stories of the day.
- 10.00 Richard Tice Examining the current state of the nation.
- 1.00 Trisha Goddard A look
- through the week's stories. 4.00 Kevin O'Sullivan Tackling the big stories of the day.
- 7.00 The Sunday Night Club Jonny Gould reflects on the sporting weekend and more.
- 10.00 The Unexplained Howard Hughes investigates more of life's mysteries.
- 12.00 Petrie Hosken The best and latest news stories overnight.
- 4.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored Best Of The host presents his verdict on the week's global events with topical debate and interviews.

5.00-6.00 James Max Undate Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237: Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

- 6.00pm Grimm Nick investigates a double-murder with a connection to a travelling carnival. (S3, ep 16, R)
- 7.00 A League Of Their Own With Russell Howard, Maisie Adam and David Walliams (R)
- 8.00 A Discovery Of Witches Diana and Phoebe continue their hunt for the missing pages from the Book of Life. (Series 3, ep 3, R)
- 9.00 Swat A plane carrying Street and the dangerous prisoner that he is transporting is hijacked. (Series 5, ep 19)
- 10.00 NCIS: Los Angeles The team works with DEA agent Talia Del Campo. (Series 13, ep 19)
- 11.00 Never Mind The Buzzcocks With Nile Rodgers. (R)
- 11.45-12.40 The Blacklist Aram turns to an unusual outlet for release (Series 9, ep 19, R)

# SKYATLANTIC

6.00 Fish Town Documentary. 9.00 Boardwalk Empire Drama.

- 2.30 The Sopranos Bacala dons a Santa suit. (S3, ep 10) **3.40** The Sopranos Christopher and Paulie endure a hellish journey. 4.45 The Sopranos Tony's affair with Gloria turns violent. 5.50 The Sopranos Jackie Jr goes into hiding after his botched armed robbery. 6.55 The Sopranos Carmela worries about the family's financial position; and Adriana confides in new friend Danielle. (S4, ep 1)
- 8.00 Babylon Berlin Kardakov flees after the Soviet attack on The Red Fortress; and Rath receives an uninvited guest in his apartment. (S1, ep 3)
- 9.00 House Of The Dragon Game of Thrones prequel following the story of House Targaryen. set 200 years before the events of the fantasy saga. With Paddy Considine. (4/10)
- 10.10 Landscapers Susan and Christopher take the stand for a final chance to prove their version of events. (4/4)
- 11.10 The Gilded Age George agrees to help Bertha in the aftermath of a tragedy. (4/9)
- 12.15 | Hate Suzie Drama (4/8) 12.55 House Of The Dragon 3.10 Game Of Thrones (\$2, ep 10)

4.15-6.00 Urban Secrets Insights.



Expectant duo (Drama, 11.25am)

### **SPORT**

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT 6.40am Super League Gold 6.45 LIVE NRLW: St George Illawarra Dragons v Newcastle Knights. Kickoff at 6.45 **8.30** Goals On Sunday **10.00** Super Sunday Matchday 11.30 LIVE Super Sunday: Brentford v Arsenal. Kickoff at 12.00

2.05 LIVE Super Sunday: Everton v West Ham United. Kickoff at 2.15 4.45 LIVE WSL: Liverpool v Chelsea Coverage of the Women's Super League match at Prenton Park. Kickoff at 6.45 **7.30 LIVE** NFL. Coverage of a week two fixture. Kickoff at 6.00 **9.15** LIVE NFL. Coverage of a week two fixture 12.30 NBC's FNIA 1.15 LIVE NFL: Green Bay Packers v Chicago Bears. Kickoff at 1.20 4.30-6.00 News

#### **EUROSPORT 1**

8.20am Cycling. The Ras Na mBan **8.50** Cycling. The Tour of Flanders **9.05** Cycling. The Tour of Luxembourg 10.00 Athletics: Sydney Marathon 12.00 72 — A Gathering Of Champions 2.00 Cycling. The Road World championships 4.00 Tennis: Best Of The Australian Open **5.00** Roland-Garros - Best Of 2022 6.00 Discovery Golf **6.30** Triathlon: Super League **8.30**LIVE Triathlon PTO Tour. Coverage of the US Open from Irving, Texas 12.30 Sailing: Spirit Of Yachting 1.00 Hall Of Fame: Tokyo 2020 2.00 Cycling. The Gent-Wevelgem 2.15 Cycling. The Road World championships 4.10-8.20 LIVE Cycling. Coverage of the under-23 men's individual time trial in the Road World championships in Australia

#### BT SPORT 1

6.00am ESPN FC 6.30 Premier League 8.00 Serie A 9.00 WWE Raw Highlights 10.00 WWE Smackdown Highlights 11.00 ESPN FC 11.30 LIVE Serie A: Udinese v Inter Milan. Kickoff at 11.30 1.30 Joe Cole Cast 2.00 LIVE Premiership Rugby Union: Worcester Warriors v Exeter Chiefs. Kickoff at 3.00 5.15 Rugby Tonight 6.00 Rugby Stories **6.30** Joe Cole Cast **7.00** Golazzo Live **7.45** LIVE Serie A: AC Milan v Napoli. Coverage of the Italian top-flight match at San Siro. Kickoff at 7.45 **10.00** Down The Clubhouse 11.00 Joe Cole Cast 11.30 LIVE Hero CPL: Trinbago Knight Riders v Saint Lucia Kings. The T20 cricket match at Brian Lara Cricket Academy **3.45** National League Highlights **4.15** Badminton Unlimited 4.45-6.00 Classic MOTD — Thrillers

# **RADIO**

# **PICK OF THE DAY**

### The Second Elizabethan Age

**Tortoise podcast** Sir Richard Lambert, former chairman of the British Museum and ex-editor of the

the late Queen's reign and how society changed. Desert **Island Discs** (R4, 11.15am) returns with Sue Barker. **Drama On 3** (R3, 8pm) is *Folk*, Nell Leyshon's play inspired by Cecil Sharp's efforts to gather as many folk songs as he could before they were lost in the industrialised 1900s. Clair Woodward

Financial Times, reflects on

#### **RADIO 4**

10.00 The Archers (R) 11.15 Desert Island Discs. In the first of a new run, Lauren Laverne talks to Sue Barker 12.00 News 12.01 (LW) Shipping 12.04 Mark Steel's In Town (R) 12.32 The Food Programme **1.00** The World This Weekend **1.30** The Coming Storm (R) 2.00 Gardeners' Question Time (R) 2.45 Reflections On Maiesty 3.00 Drama: North And South, by Elizabeth Gaskell. Only John Thornton stands between Margaret and the police (3/3) **4.00** Open Book. Johny Pitts talks to Maggie O'Farrell about her new book The Marriage Portrait **4.30** Imagiste. Jean Sprackland explores the female Imagist poets, such as HD and Amy Lowell 5.00 File On 4, 'For profit' children's homes (R) **5.40** Profile (R) 5.54 Shipping 6.00 News 6.15 Pick Of The Week 7.00 The Archers 7.15 Ed Reardon's Week (R) 7.45 Hulda's Cafe. The Puffling, by Tiffany Murray 8.00 More Or Less (R) 8.30 Last Word (R) **9.00** Money Box (R) **9.25** Appeal (R) 9.30 Princess (R) 10.00 The Westminster Hour **11.00** Loose Ends (R) **11.30** Something Understood (R) **12.00** News **12.15** Thinking Allowed (R) **12.45** Bells (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

#### **TIMES RADIO**

6.00 Chloe Tilley And Calum Macdonald With Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Sunday Morning With Kate McCann And Adam Boulton **1.00** Alexis Conran **4.00** Ayesha Hazarika **7.00** Highlights From Times Radio 8.00 Stories Of Our Times. The Times's daily podcast **8.30** Matt Chorley **9.00** Highlights From Times Radio 10.00 Kait Borsay. Late-night conversation **1.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard sage charge

#### RADIO 4 FXTRA

10.00 Desert Island Discs 10.45 David Attenborough's Life Stories 11.00 Radiolab 11.55 Inheritance Tracks 12.00 Poetry Extra **12.30** Thanks A Lot, Milton Jones! **1.00** In Search Of Mary Shelley **2.10** Inheritance Tracks **2.20** Breathing Underwater **3.30** The Hotel Suite **4.00** Madeleine **5.00** Poetry Extra **5.30** Thanks A Lot, Milton Jones! **6.00** The Door In The Wall **6.45** The Mermaid And The Rat Catcher 7.00 Radiolab **7.55** Inheritance Tracks **8.00** Madeleine **9.00** Desert Island Discs **9.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **10.00** Thanks A Lot, Milton Jones! 10.30 I Think I've Got A Problem 11.00 The Masterson Inheritance 11.30-12.00 At Home With The Snails

#### LBC

10.00 David Lammy 1.00 Sangita Myska 4.00 Ben Kentish 7.00 Rachel Johnson 10.00 Nick Abbot 1.00 Darren Adam 4.00 Steve Allen

#### RADIO 3

9.00 Sunday Morning 12.00 Private Passions 1.00 Lunchtime Concert. Another chance to hear Monday's recital from Wigmore Hall by the tenor Christoph Prégardien and the pianist Julius Drake, who perform songs by Schubert, Brahms, and Mahler (R) 2.00 The Early Music Show (R) 3.00 Choral Evensong. From St Martin-in-the-Fields (R) 4.00 Jazz Record Requests 5.00 The Listening Service. Exploring chant **5.30** Words And Music (R) **6.45** Between The Ears. The poet Kim Addonizio spends a night in a fire lookout tower **7.15** A Sequence Of Music. A selection of pieces 8.00 Drama On 3: Folk, by Nell Levshon. Stars Simon Russell Beale and Amanda Lawrence 9.30 Record Review Extra. The recommended version of Schubert's Piano Trio in B flat **11.00** The Voice Of The Vibraphone. The instrument's relationship to the drum **12.00** Classical Fix. A playlist for Magical Bones (R) 12.30 Through The Night

#### CLASSIC FM

10.00 John Brunning 1.00 Catherine Bott **4.00** John Humphrys **7.00** Charlotte Hawkins **9.00** Moira Stuart Meets. Jamie Oliver **10.00** Zeb Soanes 1.00 Bill Overton 4.00 Sam Pittis

#### RADIO 2

9.00 Steve Wright 11.00 The Michael Ball Show **1.00** Elaine Paige. The host remembers Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 3.00 Sounds Of The 70s With Johnnie Walker **5.00** Rob Beckett **7.00** Tony Blackburn's Golden Hour 8.00 Sunday Night Is Music Night. The BBC Concert Orchestra perform (R) 10.00 Radio 2 Unwinds With Angela Griffin 12.00 Phil Williams 3.00 Alternative Sounds Of The 90s With Dermot O'Leary **4.00** Nicki Chapman

#### VIRGIN RADIO

9.30 The Graham Norton Show 12.30 Steve Denyer 4.00 Bam 7.00 Sunday Special 8.00 Olivia Jones 12.00 Sean Goldsmith 4.00 Steve Denyer

#### TALKSPORT

9.00 Jonny Owen And Friends 11.00 Warm Up **1.00** Sunday Session **5.00** Boot Room **8.00** The Transfer Hub 9.00 Trans Europe Express 12.00 A Talksport Special 1.00 Extra Time

RADIO 4 FM 92.4-94.6 MHz LW 198 kHz (1515m), MW 720 kHz LBC FM 97.3 MHz RADIO 3 FM 90.2-92.4 MHz CLASSIC FM FM 100-102 MHz RADIO 2 FM 88-90 2 MHz TALKSPORT MW 1053, 1071, 1089, 1107 kHz

#### VESTERDAY

6.00am Secrets Of The London Underground **8.00** World War Weird 12.00 Bangers And Cash 2.00 Bangers & Cash — Restoring Classics **4.00** Bangers And Cash **8.00** 'Allo 'Allo! **8.40** Open All Hours 10.00 Abandoned Engineering 11.00-1.00 Bangers And Cash

**6.00pm** Whose Line Is It Anyway? USA **7.00** Special Ops — Crime Squad UK 8.00 QI XL. With Julia Zemiro, Matt Lucas and David Mitchell 9.00 Have I Got A Bit More News For You. Victoria Coren Mitchell hosts, with guests Sara Pascoe and Henry Blofeld **10.00** Question Team. With Jo Brand, Thanyia Moore, Josh Pugh and special guest Bill Bailey **11.00** Comedians Giving Lectures. With Elf Lyons and Frankie Boyle 11.40 Would I Lie To You? With Hugh Dennis and Ben Fogle **12.20** Mock The Week **1.00** QI XL **2.00** Have I Got A Bit More News For You **2.55** Room 101 **3.25-4.00** Mock The Week

#### FACTUAL

#### **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

**6.00pm** Nazi Death Camp — The Great Escape. Jewish former prisoners at a Polish death camp recall their escape

7.00 Hitler's Death Army — Das Reich. Documentary about elite German soldiers **9.00** Hitler's Death Squad. The Nazi soldiers charged with some of history's most horrific crimes 10.00 Hitler Youth. The story of the Nazi youth organisation **12.00-2.00** Inside The SS

#### DISCOVERY

6.00pm Undercover Billionaire. Glenn Stearns finds out if he has succeeded in creating a \$1m business **7.00** Lone Star Law. Kyle Hendley wrangles a rattlesnake **8.00** South American Squatch Of Argentina — Expedition Mungo. Embarking on the trail of the Ucumar, believed to be a bear — or even a veti **9.00** Mysteries Of The Deep. The dark secrets of a 150-year-old shipwreck off the Mexican coast **10.00** Deadliest Catch. The crab fishermen brave the treacherous waves of the Bering Sea 11.00 Wheeler Dealers. Mike Brewer has a tip from an unusual source — his electrician 12.00 100 Days Wild 1.00-4.00 Edge Of Alaska

#### PBS AMERICA

**5.00pm** The Vietnam War **9.40** Flood In The Desert. Exploring the 1928 St Francis Dam collapse 10.50-12.00 Europe's Forgotten Border. Events on the border between Czechoslovakia and the West during the Cold War

#### SKY DOCUMENTARIES 6.00am Discovering Peter Finch 7.00

Discovering Gene Wilder **8.00** The Directors 9.55 The Vietnam War 1.00 JFK Revisited — Through The Looking Glass **3.15** Chaos In Kabul — Escaping The Taliban 4.15 I Am Burt Reynolds 6.00 Music Box 8.00 A Minute's Silence For The Queen **8.05** The Last Movie Stars **9.00** Gaming Wall St. New series. How a group of internet investors teamed up to skyrocket GameStop's stock price 11.30-1.30 Wirecard — A Billion Euro Lie

#### SKY NATURE

6.00am Wild Workers 8.00 Big Cat Country 10.00 Kingdom Of Plants 11.00 Wild Animal Babies 2.00 Brazil Untamed 4.00 Into The Wild — India 6.00 Kingdom Of Plants **7.00** Patagonia **8.00** A Minute's Silence For The Queen 8.05 Shark Squad. How sharks are more intelligent than generally believed 9.00 The Predator's Playbook **10.00** Deadly Australians 11.00-12.00 Patagonia

#### **SMITHSONIAN**

6.00am Aerial America 1.00 Inside The Factory 2.00 Space Disasters. Back-to-back editions **8.00** Combat Ships **10.00** Inside The Factory 11.00-12.00 Combat Ships

### THE STATE FUNERAL OF **HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II**

Today sees tradition and technology coming together for the biggest single outside-broadcast event in British history. Prepare yourself for a day by the TV. 6am At dawn, the King's bodyguards begin a final vigil at the Queen's coffin in Westminster Hall **8.30** Westminster Hall closes 9.00 Big Ben strikes. The bell's hammer is then

covered with a leather pad

to muffle its strikes for the

rest of the day. **10.30** The coffin is moved to the state gun carriage, used for the funerals of the Queen Mother and Diana, Princess of Wales. The King and senior members of the royal family follow it from Westminster Hall to the abbey.

**11.00** The state funeral begins, led by the Dean of

Westminster and the Archbishop of Canterbury. 12 noon The Last Post and Reveille are played. The Queen's coffin is placed back on the state gun carriage and the funeral procession proceeds to Wellington Arch **1.00** The coffin travels to Windsor Castle. There, the roval family follow the hearse on foot to St George's Chapel **4.00** The committal service, conducted by the Dean of Windsor. This will be the final televised stage. Before the last hymn, the Imperial State Crown, sceptre and orb are removed from the coffin by the crown ieweller. Then a lone piper plays a lament as the coffin is lowered into the royal vault. Follow thetimes.co.uk for detailed information once TV schedules are confirmed



### BBC1

6.00am Breakfast Latest reports. 8.00 CHOICE The State Funeral Of HM Queen Elizabeth II

Coverage from Westminster Abbey, as Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is laid to rest. (See Critics' choice)

5.00 News; Weather Headlines. 5.50 Regional News Headlines.

6.15 The One Show — Our Queen Remembered Tributes to and stories of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, on the day of her state funeral.

6.50 CHOICE Paddington 2 Stars Hugh Bonneville, Hugh Grant and Sally Hawkins, and the voice of Ben Whishaw. The lovable bear's search for a birthday present for his aunt leads to being framed as a thief. (2017, PG;

see Film choice)

8.30 The State Funeral Of HM Queen Elizabeth II -Events Of The Day A look back at the day's events from Westminster Abbev and St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle, as Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was laid to rest.

10.00 News; Weather Reports. 11.00 Regional News Updates. 11.25 Ellie & Natasia The Brothers Pomodoro return. (5/6, R) 11.40 Ellie & Natasia The Internet Nails gang hand out special awards.

11.55 The Hit List (R) 12.45-6.00 Joins BBC News

SCOTLAND 5.50 Reporting Scotland. 11.25 TBA. 11.55 Ellie & Natasia. 12.10 Ellie & Natasia.

### BBC2

Daytime BBC2 schedules had still to be confirmed when we went to press

6.00pm House Of Games With guest panellists Charlie Baker, Val McDermid, Martin Offiah and Rebecca Lucy Taylor.

**6.30 Unbeatable** Quiz show. 7.00 Mastermind New series. Clive Myrie returns with the quiz, featuring specialist subjects Francisco de Gova. Peaky Blinders, Team GB at the 2020 Summer Olympics and the Philip Marlowe novels.

7.30 Only Connect The Cryptics take on the Strigiformes.

8.00 University Challenge Coventry University takes on Cardiff University.

8.30 FILM: The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society Stars Lily James. In the aftermath of the Second World War, a writer writes about the experiences of the residents of Guernsev Handsome drama. (2018, 12)

10.30 Newsnight The day's events.

11.15 FILM: Pawn Sacrifice Stars Tobey Maguire. The American chess prodigy Bobby Fischer is caught between two superpowers and his own struggles. Engrossing drama. (2014, 12)

1.00 Countryfile (Signed, R) 2.00 Celebrity Masterchef Culinary contest. (Signed, R) 3.00-3.30 How To With John

# ITV

Daytime ITV schedules had still to be confirmed when we went to press

6.00am Good Morning Britain Includes a preview of today's events in London and news from around the country.

8.00 CHOICE The State Funeral Of HM Queen Elizabeth II Coverage from Westminster Abbey, as Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is laid to rest. Live and uninterrupted coverage. (See Critics' choice)

6.00 Regional News Update. 6.30 News; Weather Reports.

7.00 The State Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II A documentary film chronicling the events of the past ten days, from The Queen's death to the state funeral.

9.00 The State Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II A special programme focusing on all the day's events

10.00 News At Ten Bulletin covering today's funeral



St George's Chapel, Windsor

# **CHANNEL 4**

Daytime C4 schedules had still to be confirmed when we went to press

12.30pm Steph's Packed Lunch 2.10 Countdown Gameshow.

3.00 A Place In The Sun Advice. (R) 4.00 Chateau DIY Insights.

5.00 Moneybags Quiz show. 6.00 The Simpsons Cartoon. (R)

6.30 Hollvoaks Chester soap. (R) 7.00 News; Weather Reports.

8.00 Food Unwrapped Briony May Williams presses for an answer as to how many apples go into a can of cider.

8.30 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders Smashed lemongrass chicken and sweet potato chilli with nachos.

9.00 24 Hours In A&E An 18-year-old is rushed to resus after coming off his motor scooter on his birthday.

10.00 Second Hand For 50 Grand Reece heads to LA.

11.05 Uefa Nations League Magazine Show Action.

11.35 Sisterhood Three women are forced to face the horrors of their past. (1/6; Icelandic with subtitles)

12.35 999 — On The Front Line (R) 1.30 Couples Come Dine With Me Dinner parties in Plymouth. (R)

2.20 FILM: Pebbles Stars Chellapandi, Sublime, (2021, 15; Tamil with subtitles)

3.35 My Grandparents' War (R) 4.30 Grand Designs — The Streets With Kevin McCloud. (R) 5.25 Drawers Off Reality. (R)

5.50-6.10 Find It, Fix It, Flog It (R)

# **CHANNEL 5**

Daytime C5 schedules had still to be confirmed when we went to press

1.40pm News; Weather Reports. 1.45 Home And Away (R)

2.15 The Stranger In My Home A man hires a woman to house-sit, but she ends up posing as his girlfriend with no intentions of leaving. (R)

4.00 Bargain Loving Brits By The Sea Documentary. (R)

5.00 News; Weather Reports. 6.00 Cash In The Attic Jules and

David visit Oxford. 6.55 News; Weather Reports. 7.00 Police Interceptors Following an operation to

stop a van suspected of carrying cocaine. (R) 7.55 News; Weather Reports.

8.00 Motorway Cops — Catching Britain's Speeders An officer tries to catch up with a speeding SUV.

9.00 CHOICE Police — Suspect No1 Documentary following detectives on investigations. (See Critics' choice)

10.00 Casualty 24/7 — Every Second Counts A junior doctor treats a man with a suspected case of sepsis. (R)

11.05 999 — Critical Condition The team treats a man who has sustained numerous traumatic injuries. (R)

12.05 Police Interceptors (R) 1.00 NFL — Monday Night Football: Philadelphia Eagles v Minnesota Vikings.

4.30 Entertainment News Gossip

# **MONDAY** 19 SEPTEMBER



### The State Funeral Of HM Queen Elizabeth II

Seventy years ago, in 1952, the BBC's bulky cameras were not permitted at the funeral of King George VI, although the procession of his coffin to Westminster Hall was broadcast by the corporation, narrated with resonant poignancy by Richard Dimbleby. It was the first time any part of a British monarch's funeral had been broadcast, at least to the estimated 1½ million people across the country who owned TV sets. Today, the state funeral of George's elder daughter, Queen Elizabeth II, will reach billions of viewers worldwide, an event heavy with the kind of gilded

history and ritual that fits the spaces of rolling news

Accordingly, live coverage will begin at 8am on BBC1, BBC News and BBC iPlayer, with ITV, CNN and Sky News among those also broadcasting the event. Led by the Dean of Westminster with the Archbishop of Canterbury,



The Archbishop of Canterbury

the funeral will take place from 11am at Westminster Abbey, where the Queen married Prince Philip in 1947 and where her coronation was held in 1953. World leaders including Joe Biden, Ursula von der Leyen and Emmanuel Macron – plus the new prime minister, Liz Truss, will be present for the first funeral of a monarch at the abbey since George II's burial in 1760. At 12.15pm, after the ceremony, the Queen's coffin will be taken in a walking procession to the Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner, before being driven to Windsor Castle, where the Queen will be buried alongside her husband, her parents and her sister, at the King George VI Memorial Chapel inside St

George's Chapel. At 7pm there will be a private service for the royal family, cameras left to focus on the crowds outside and the impact of the day's events. The official mourning period will be completed, today's events becoming part of a remarkable archive of televised history. *Victoria Segal* 



The Queen's coronation in 1953

# Six of the best royal documentaries you can watch now

It is instructive to see how Oueen Elizabeth II was documented by the media in the generation-spanning fivepart series The Queen And **Us** (BBC iPlayer), which also shows the changing ways in which Britain as a nation looked at the monarch. "Cameras have always been part of our lives," says Elizabeth in **The Unseen** Queen (BBC iPlayer). "There is a difference to watching a home movie when you know who it is on the other side of the lens." This moving documentary shows how the royals saw themselves, away from media scrutiny. The BFI Player has curated a fine selection of films under the umbrella title A Life Through The Lens, which includes Elizabeth's visit to a military tattoo in 1937, the route of the coronation in 1953, a tour of Pakistan and Bangladesh in 1961 and the silver jubilee in 1977. If you fancy a more subject-specific approach, The Queen's **Favourite Animals (All4)** tries to chronicle the life of the sovereign through her relationships with her Pembroke Welsh corgis and her love of horse racing. If all that leaves you wondering what's next for the monarchy the answers are given in the three-part series The Real Windsors (All4); and Jonathan Dimbleby brings you up to date with **Charles**. The Monarch And The Man (ITV Hub), which looks back at the achievements of the man who is the King and asks what kind of constitutional monarch he will be. Andrew Male

### CRITICS' CHOICE

### Snowflake/Tornado (BBC iPlayer)

Stewart Lee knows better than anybody that great stand-up comedy is about crowd control, and to watch him in these two live specials, filmed at York's Theatre Royal in May 2022, is to see a master at work. Lee can do gags and punchlines

(a fact he is repeatedly at pains to point out), but he's happiest when working with almost nothing (the repeated phrase "for example", for example), and guttural animal cries that can reduce his audience to hysterics. This back-to-back set may not convert naysayers such as Tony Parsons or Toby Young, but for the rest of us it is a welcome double-portion of crazed laughter from an artist at his peak. *AM* 

# Paddington 2 (BBC1, 6.50pm)

The first *Paddington* was near unimprovable, but writer-director Paul King manages it with this sequel. His grasp on the tone of Paddington – sweet, traditional but never twee – is so assured he can get a bit more eccentric here, never more so than with Hugh Grant's extraordinarily camp villain, an actor out to frame Paddington for theft. *OR* 

### Police — Suspect No 1 (C5, 9pm)

"Criminals always lie to us, it's just a matter of working out the truth," says a cop in the introduction to this Norfolk policing documentary. It's not enough to have a suspect in the frame, evidence must be gathered or a confession secured. And sometimes it's pure luck that garners the one crucial clue. Chilling in the extreme. HS

### The Big Blowout (E4, 10pm)

The BBC *Glows Up*, now Channel 4 blows out, with *Strictly* favourite AJ Odudu presenting a hairdressing competition that blatantly mimics the format of the BBC3 make-up-artist show. There is one significant difference, though: these aren't Insta-wannabes, these people are professionals with businesses to ruin. *HS* 

- 7.00pm Top Gear Chris Harris test-drives the Ferrari FXXK at the Daytona circuit.
- 8.00 Dubai Hustle Brokers attend the firm's 24-hour desert challenge. (Series 2, ep 3)
- 8.30 Nail Bar Boys A manicurist confess his gambling addiction to a client. (2/3)
- **9.00 Bad Education** First episode of the comedy, with Jack Whitehall. (Series 1, ep 1) 9.30 Bad Education Fraser prepares for the arrival of French exchange students.
- 10.00 Ladhood Liam is asked to give a speech. (Series 3, ep 4)
- 10.25 Cuckoo Double bill. 11.15 Dubai Hustle (Series 2, ep 3)
- **11.45** Nail Bar Boys (2/3)
- 12.15 Bad Education Comedy
- 1.15 Ladhood (Series 3, ep 4)
- 1.40 Cuckoo Comedy. 2.30 The Rap Game UK The artists
- perform. (Last in series) 3.30-4.00 Eating With My Ex

### **DRAMA**

- 12.00 The Bill Police drama series. 1.00 Classic FastEnders Soan
- 2.20 Monarch Of The Glen
- 3.20 A Place To Call Home
- 4.20 All Creatures Great And Small Drama, (Series 1, ep 1) 5.20 Waiting For God Sitcom.
- 6.00 Are You Being Served?
- 6.40 'Allo 'Allo! Classic comedy.
- 7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine
- 8.00 Miss Marple With Joan Hickson. The sleuth visits the country house of an old friend's sister, (Series 3, ep 3)
- 10.25 New Tricks Danny look in to the death of a modern-day Miss Marple, (Series 11, ep 9)
- 11.50 Spooks Adam and Zaf hunt a team of terrorists. (S5, ep 6)
- 1.05 Bad Girls Al continues to bully Shaz. (Series 3, ep 13)
- 2.20 The Heart Guy Hugh is left without a job. (Series 4, ep 2)
- 3.10-4.00 Waiting For God

### BBC4

- 7.00pm Great American Railroad Journeys A trip across Alaska. (Series 4, ep 1)
- 8.00 Art Of Persia Samira Ahmed looks at how Iran preserved its language and culture despite the Arab conquest. (2/3)
- 9.00 The Search For A New Earth Stephen Hawking explores the possibility of humans inhabiting other planets.
- 10.30 Clydebuilt The Ships That Made The Commonwealth David Hayman tells the stories of four vessels built in Glasgow shipyards, beginning with the Cutty Sark. (1/4)
- 11.30 Ian Hislop's Fake News A True History The history of
- dishonest news reporting.

  12.30 The Celts Blood, Iron And Sacrifice The emergence of La Tene culture
- 1.30 Great American Railroad Journeys (Series 4, ep 1)
- 2.30-3.30 Art Of Persia (2/3)

# SKYARTS

#### 6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock

Presents: Momentum. A man decides to steal money from his boss. 6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Wet Saturday. A man tries to frame someone for murder.

- 7.00 Inside Art Glyn Philpot At Pallant House The first major exhibition of work by the artist in nearly 40 years.
- 7.30 Andre Rieu Welcome To My World The violinist reflects on his tour of Australia
- 8.30 FILM: The Lost Leonardo

Documenting the case of the missing Salvator Mundi painting by Leonardo da . Vinci. Enthralling. (2020)

- 10.25 Comedy Legends Paying tribute to Joyce Grenfell.
- 11.25-1.00 The South Bank Show A profile of Frank Skinner.

### ITV2

- 6.00pm Catchphrase Gameshow, with Shirley Ballas, Bhavna Limbachia and Dr Ranj Singh.
- 7.00 Secret Crush A radiographer confesses his feelings to a friend and colleague.
- 8.00 Bob's Burgers Gayle's cat breaks into showbiz (Series 7 ep 10) 8.30 Bob's Burgers Bob teams up with Jimmy to oust a regular food-scammer.
- 9.00 Bad Chefs New cookery show hosted by Chunkz as takeaway addicts move into a school and learn to cook.
- 10.00 Family Guy Peter turns the Pewterschmidt mansion into a hotel. (Series 20, ep 7)
- 10.30 American Dad! The Smiths open their own cemetery in their backyard. (S17, ep 16)
- 11.00 Family Guy Peter helps Joe to publish a book. (Series 13. ep 2) **11.30-12.00** Family Guy Peter takes up smoking. (Series 12, ep 15)

### ITV4

- 5.55pm Match Time Revisited 7.00 Premiership Rugby Union Highlights The second round
- 8.00 MotoGP Highlights Action from the Grand Prix of Aragon, in Spain
- 9.00 FILM: Creed II Stars Michael B Jordan. Heavyweight champion Adonis Creed faces off against Viktor, the son of Ivan Drago, whom his mentor Rocky Balboa fought in the 1980s. Decent sequel.
- 11.40 FILM: Get Carter Stars Michael Caine. A racketeer investigates his brother's mysterious death in Newcastle. Classic thriller. (1971, 18: includes FYI Daily)

(2018, 12; includes FYI Daily)

1.55 Motorsport UK At Knockhill. 2.50 Unwind Daily relaxation. 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.

### ITV3

- 6.00 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 Classic Emmerdale Soap
- 8.05 That's My Boy Sitcom.
- 9.15 The Royal Hospital drama.
- 11.30 Heartbeat Rural drama.
- 1.40 Classic Emmerdale Soap. 2.40 Classic Coronation Street
- 3.45 Poirot A wealthy industrialist is murdered. (Series 5, ep 2) 4.50 Poirot A delivery causes Poirot to recall the time his supper was interrupted by
- the murder of a fellow diner. 5.55 Heartbeat Peter Pyke's warehouse goes up in smoke. 7.00 Heartbeat Vernon's friend David is kidnapped and held to ransom.
- 8.00 Endeavour The detective investigates the deaths of an astrophysicist and his girlfriend in a car accident as the rest of the world eagerly awaits news of the first moon landings. (Series 6, ep 2)
- 10.00 Wycliffe The mysterious shooting of an archaeology student and the significance of matching playing cards lead Wycliffe on a manhunt across Cornwall. (S1, ep 1)
- 11.10 Maigret A burglar disappears after a housebreaking job when he discovers a woman's body. (S1, ep 2)
- 12.20 The Royal Double bill 2.20 Unwind Daily relaxation.



It's a hair-raising time (E4, 10pm)

### **E4**

6.00pm The Big Bang Theory 7.00 Hollyoaks Chester soap.

7.30 The Big Bang Theory Leonard's mother pays a visit. (Series 3, ep 11)

8.00 Below Deck -

Mediterranean New charter guests come aboard to celebrate their seven-month dating anniversary, and the crew must provide the romantic trip of their lives

9.00 Married At First Sight UK The final two couples in the experiment set off on their honeymoons.

10.00 CHOICE The Big Blow Out New series. AJ Odudu hosts the contest in which experienced hairstylists compete in challenges. (See Critics' choice)

11.05-12.10 Gogglebox Jamie's Quick & Easy Food. Our Planet and Britain's Got Talent are appraised.

# **MORE4**

5.55pm Car SOS Vehicle revamps. 6.55 Escape To The Chateau

Dick and Angel Strawbridge transform an old outbuilding into a supersized workshop.

- 7.55 Wondrous Wales A freediver and wildlife photographer studies puffins on the Pembrokeshire coast
- 9.00 Devon And Cornwall The head gardener at Cornwall's Lost Gardens of Heligan sows a crop of meadow flowers.
- 10.00 Homes From Hell Caught On Camera Real-life footage reveals some of the dangers lurking inside homes.

11.05-12.15 24 Hours In A&E

The lives of patients facing adversity head-on, including a former cancer patient now battling an infection; and a charity fundraiser involved in a bicycle accident.

### **FILMS**

### SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

6.00am The Cinema List — Veteran Action Stars **6.15** Stowaway. A party girl fights to survive after three thieves commandeer her luxury yacht. (2022, 15) **8.00** Last Looks (2021, 15) **10.10** Marry Me. Two music stars prepare to get married, but she learns that he has been unfaithful. (2022, 12) **12.20** Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon. A girl with special powers escapes from an asylum and tries to make it on her own. (2021, 15) 2.10 Jockey (2021, 15) 4.00 Murder At Yellowstone City (2022, 15) **6.15** Stowaway. As 6.15am. 8.00 Marry Me. As 10.10am. 10.00 Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon. As 12.20pm. **11.50** Last Looks (2021, 15) **2.00** Murder At Yellowstone City (2022, 15) **4.25-6.10** Jockey (2021, 15)

### **SKY CINEMA THRILLER**

**2.00pm** Vantage Point (2008, 12) **3.35** The Family (2013, 15) **5.35** Clear And Present Danger. A CIA analyst gets caught up in the Colombian drug trade. (1994, 12) **8.00** Lord Of War. A criminal gains access to Soviet weaponry. (2005, 15) **10.05** Sliver. Apartments are surveilled by hidden CCTV. (1993, 18) **12.05-2.20** Sin City (2005, 18)

### **SKY CINEMA GREATS**

6.00am Carry On Nurse (1959, PG) 7.30 Gunfight At The OK Corral (1957. PG) 9.35 CHOICE Funny Face. Stars Audrey Hepburn and Fred Astaire. (1957, U; see Film choice) **11.20** Cold Mountain (2003, 15) **1.55** The Shawshank Redemption (1994, 15) **4.20** Let's Dance (1950, U) **6.15** Blue Hawaii (1961, PG) **8.00** Stand By Me. Four 12-year-old friends search the Oregon wilderness for the body of a teenager. (1986, 15) 9.40 Alfie. A carefree lothario has flings with as many women as possible, until real life starts to intrude. (1966, 15) 11.50 The Omen. Horror remake. (2006, 15) **1.50** Gunfight At The OK Corral (1957, PG) 4.00-6.00 Let's Dance (1950, U)

#### SKY CINEMA SELECT

**1.55pm** A Beautiful Mind (2001, 12) 4.10 The Impossible (2012, 12) 6.05 The Imitation Game. Biopic of Alan Turing, who broke vital Nazi codes during the Second World War. (2014) 12) **8.00** Apollo 13. The crew of a lunar mission are left stranded in space after an on-board explosion. (1995, PG) **10.20** A Beautiful Mind. Biopic of John Nash. (2001, 12) **12.40** In The Heights (2021, PG) **3.05** Fireheart (2022, PG) 4.40-6.20 Peter Rabbit 2 (2021, U)

#### FILM4

11.00am The Long Ships (1963, PG) 1.35 CHOICE Destry Rides Again. Stars James Stewart and Marlene Dietrich. (1939, U; see Film choice) **3.25** Hatari! The arrival of a beautiful photographer causes upheaval in Africa. (1962, U) 6.35 Sahara. An explorer searches for a treasure-laden battleship believed to be somewhere in the desert. (2005, 12) **9.00** World War Z. A UN investigator seeks a cure for a zombie virus that is threatening civilisation. (2013. 15) **11.15** Maze Runner — The Scorch Trials. A group of children travel through a dangerous wasteland. (2015, 12) **1.55-4.00** God's Own Country (2017, 15)

#### TALKING PICTURES TV

3.00pm The Woman In Question A police inspector finds her integrity being questioned. (1950, PG) 5.00 The Footage Detectives **6.00** Rogue's Yarn. A man plans to kill his wife, thinking he has the perfect alibi - but a cop sees through his plan. (1957, U) **7.35** The Coach Travellers In 1965 **8.00** Gideon's Way 9.00 Eyewitness. A janitor obsessed with a reporter pretends to have witnessed a crime and unwittingly makes himself a target for the killer. (1981, 15) 11.00-12.05 Secret Army

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

#### GOLD

**7.00am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.40** Outnumbered **8.15** 2point4 Children 8.55 Hi-De-Hi! 9.30 Open All Hours **10.10** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.30** Desmond's **12.05** 2point4 Children 12.45 Dad's Army 1.25 Outnumbered 2.00 Keeping Up Appearances 2.40 Last Of The Summer Wine 4.00 Dad's Army 4.35 Open All Hours 5.20 Keeping Up Appearances **6.00** Hi-De-Hi! **6.35** Dad's Army **8.00** Porridge **9.20** The Office **10.40** This Time With Alan Partridge 11.20 The Cockfields 12.00 Peep Show **1.10** Porridge **2.20** The Office **3.20-4.00** This Time With Alan Partridge

#### SKY COMEDY

**6.00pm** Futurama **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** Black Monday 10.15 Amy Schumer the Apollo. Stand-up comedy **11.30**David Brenner Back With A Vengeance! 12.45 David Cross — The Pride Is Back. A performance from 2000 **1.55** Miracle Workers — Dark Ages 2.25 Entourage 4.00-5.00 Everybody Hates Chris

#### SKY WITNESS

6.00pm Nothing To Declare 8.00 Blue Bloods. Double bill of the crime drama

10.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit 12.00 The Equalizer 1.00 Law & Order: Organized Crime 2.00 Coroner 3.00 FBI 4.00 Road Wars 5.00-6.00 Brit Cops - Law & Disorder

6.00pm Property Brothers - Forever Homes 7.00 Masterchef Australia 8.00 Inside The Ambulance - Coast And Country 9.00 DIY SOS — Children In Need Special 10.20 The Undateables 11.20 Dating With My Mates 12.20 Children's Ward **1.30** Tipping Point 2.30-3.00 Inside The Ambulance

6.00pm Home And Away 7.00 GPs — Behind Closed Doors **8.00** Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly **9.00** Dirty Home Rescue 10.00 Adults Only: Kinky For Cash. A couple shoot a daring new video **11.00** FILM: Hellboy. Stars David Harbour and Milla Jovovich. Fantasy 1.20 Red Shoe Diaries 2.35 Judge Judy 3.50-4.00 Entertainment News

**6.00pm** NCIS. Three episodes **9.00** The Blacklist. A plane transporting prisoners crashes under suspicious circumstances **10.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **3.35-4.00** 999 Criminals Caught On Camera

- 6.00 James Max The latest news. 6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show Discussion.
- 10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham A look at the morning newspapers.
- 1.00 Ian Collins Viewers' calls. 4.00 HM The Queen — The **Journey To London**
- With Vanessa Feltz. 7.00 The News Desk Tom Newton Dunn tackles the biggest stories of the day.
- 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored The host presents his verdict on the day's global events.
- 9.00 The Talk Debating the topics everybody is talking about.
- 10.00 Daisy McAndrew Updates.
- 11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored 12.00 Petrie Hosken Updates.
- 4.00 The Talk Political chat.

5.00-6.00 James Max Undates Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237: Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

- 6.00pm Stargate SG-1 O'Neill contracts a deadly virus from a woman who has been frozen in ice. (Series 6, ep 4, R) 7.00 Stargate SG-1 A sleepy seaside town hides a sinister secret. (R)
- 8.00 Resident Alien Harry and Asta's trip is interrupted by a relative. (Series 2, ep 5, R)
- 9.00 Cobra Cyberwar A breach at the port of Dover means an insidious threat may be in play. (Series 2, ep 3, R)
- 10.00 Brassic Chinese Dan gives his retired racing greyhound to Cardi. (Series 4, ep 2, R)
- 11.00 A League Of Their Own With guests Kyle Walker. Russell Howard, Maisie Adam and David Walliams (R)
- 12.00-1.00 The Ultimate Romcom Movies With Clara Amfo. Ellie Taylor and Russell Kane. (R)

6.00am Friends 9.00 Guessable? With

Fern Brady, Kerry Howard, Alfie Brown

Growing Pains 10.30 FILM: Airplane II

Ridiculousness 12.30 South Park 2.10

6.00am Shipwreck Secrets 8.00 Top

Gear 9.00 The World At War 10.00

Engineering 12.00 The Architecture The Railways Built 1.00 Bangers And Cash 2.00 Abandoned Engineering

4.00 War Factories 5.00 The World

Engineering **9.00** The Buildings That Fought Hitler **10.00** Bangers

Engineering 12.00-1.00 Top Gear

6.00pm Taskmaster 7.00 House Of

Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie To You? **9.00** QI XL. With Phill Jupitus

and Josh Widdicombe 10.00 Question

More Old News For You 12.40 QI 1.20

I Lie To You? 11.40 Have I Got A Bit

QI XL 2.30-4.00 Room 101

Team. With Jonathan Ross 11.00 Would

And Cash 11.00 Abandoned

At War **6.00** Top Gear **7.00** Abandoned

War Factories 11.00 Abandoned

The Ricky Gervais Show 3.05 Bob's

Burgers 3.50-5.00 Friends

**YESTERDAY** 

The Seguel, Stars Robert Hays 11.50

and Ria Lina 9.45 Rhod Gilbert's

COMEDY CENTRAL

# SKYATLANTIC

6.00 Urban Secrets Documentary. 7.45 Boardwalk Empire Drama. 10.00 The Sopranos Crime drama.

12.15 Ray Donovan Drama series. 2.25 Game Of Thrones (S2, ep 10)

- 3.30 Boardwalk Empire Kessler is detained by Agent Knox. (S4, ep 5) 4.40 Boardwalk **Empire** Nucky reconnects with Sally Wheet in Tampa.
- 5.45 The Sopranos Tony warns Janice about her new love. (Series 4, ep 2) 6.50 The Sopranos Silvio and Ralph try to ensure the Columbus Day parade runs smoothly; and Bobby's wife, Karen, is involved in a car accident.
- 7.55 Game Of Thrones Daenerys arrives in Slaver's Bay looking to form an army; and Jon Snow tries to earn the trust of wildling leader Mance Rayder, (Series 3, ep 1)
- 9.00 House Of The Dragon Game of Thrones prequel, with Paddy Considine, (5/10)
- 10.10 Gangs Of London Darren wrestles with the chaos he has unleashed. (5/9)
- 11.15 House Of The Dragon Game of Thrones prequel, with Paddy Considine. (5/10)
- **12.25 The Nevers** Adventure. (5/6) **1.40 Irma Vep** Drama. (7/8) 2.45 | Hate Suzie Drama. (4/8) 3.30 In Treatment (Series 2, ep 23)

4.00-6.00 Urban Secrets



Audrey Hepburn (SCG, 9.35am)

### **SPORT**

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT **6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans 10.00 The Football Show 11.30 Ref Watch 12.00 The Football Show 1.00 News 12.00 LIVE NFL: Buffalo Bills v Tennessee Titans. Coverage of the week two match at Highmark Stadium. Kickoff at 12.15 3.30 LIVE NFL: Philadelphia Eagles v Minnesota Vikings. Coverage of the week two match at Lincoln Financial Field. Kickoff at 1.30 4.30-6.00 News

#### **EUROSPORT 1**

8.20am Cycling. The Paris-Roubaix 8.35 The French Open 10.00 Hall Of Fame: Tokyo 2020 11.00 Cycling. The Road World championships **1.00**Australian Open Tennis **2.30** Motocross World Championship 3.00 FIA World Endurance Championship **4.00**Triathlon PTO Tour — Canadian Open **5.00** Cycling. The Ras Na mBan **5.30** Triathlon — Embrunman Ironman **6.00** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions 7.00 Cycling. The Road World championships **9.00** The French Open **11.30** Cycling. Road World Championships **12.30** LIVE Cycling. The junior women's individual time tria in the Road World championships **2.00** LIVE Cycling. The junior women's individual time trial in the Road World championships 2.30 Cycling. The Road World championships 4.20-8.20 LIVE Cycling. Coverage of the junior men's individual time trial in Australia

#### BT SPORT 1

**6.00am** ESPN FC **6.30** Uefa Champions League Goals Reload 6.45 Uefa Europa League Goals Reload **7.00** WWE NXT Highlights **8.00** Premier League Review 9.00 WSI Championship Tour 10.00 Premier League 11.30 National League 1.00 National League Highlights 1.30 Premier League Review **2.30** Premier League Stories **3.00** Ligue 1 Highlights **4.00** UEFA Champions League Review **5.00** ESPN FC **5.30** ESPN FC Presents - Gab & Juls **6.00 LIVE** MLB: Cleveland Guardians v Minnesota Twins. Start-time at 6.10 **9.30** Currie Club 10.00 Goals Reload 10.30 ESPN FC Presents — Gab & Juls 11.00 WWE Raw Highlights 12.00 WWE Smackdown Highlights 1.00 LIVE WWE Monday Night Raw **4.15** Goals Reload **4.30** Ligue 1 Highlights 5.30-6.00 Classic MOTD — Thrillers

# **RADIO**

#### **PICK OF THE DAY**



### Composer Of The Week

Radio 3, 12 noon Exploring the life and music of prolific German composer Emilie Mayer, known in her lifetime as the "female Beethoven". The finalists from this year's BBC National **Short Story Award** (Radio 4, 3.30pm) are broadcast all this week with the winner announced in October. **Allegedly ... The Popbitch** Podcast (Audible podcast)

discusses some of the most infamous celebrity scandals. Clair Woodward

**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today 9.00 Start The Week, Adam Rutherford is joined by Caroline Vout, Katy Hessel and Matt Lodder for a discussion about human skin in art 9.45 Book Of The Week: Fen, Bog & Swamp, by Annie Proulx 9.45 (LW) Daily Service 10.00 Woman's Hour 11.00 Room 5 (R) 11.30 The Frost Tapes Interviews with Muhammad Ali **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** You And Yours **1.00** The World At One **1.45** The Boy In The Woods. An amateur detective sets out on a search for new clues 2.00 The Archers (R) 2.15 This Cultural Life (R) 3.00 Brain Of Britain 3.30 BBC National Short Story Award. New series. The first story on this year's shortlist **4.00** Once Upon A Time (R) **4.30** Beyond Belief **5.00** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping **6.00** News **6.30** Mark Steel's In Town 7.00 The Archers 7.15 Front Row 8.00 The Other Black Door 8.30 Crossing Continents (R) 9.00 Music Made In The Middle (R) 9.30 Start The Week (R) **10.00** The World Tonight 10.45 Book At Bedtime 11.00 In Suburbia (R) 11.30 Today In Parliament 12.00 News 12.30 Book Of The Week (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** World Service

#### TIMES RADIO

5.00 Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Aasmah Mir And Stig Abell With Times Radio Breakfast 10.00 Matt Chorley 1.00 Mariella Frostrup **4.00** John Pienaar With Times Radio Drive **7.00** Ed Vaizey. The Conservative peer and former MP sits in, bringing his take on the day's news **10.00** Carole Walker podcast **1.30** Red Box **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard ssage charge

#### RADIO 4 FXTRA

5.00 Yes Minister 5.30 Thanks A Lot, Milton Jones! 6.00 Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **6.30** Agatha Raisin **7.00** Hazelbeach **7.30** Mark Steel's In Town 8.00 Round The Horne **8.30** Poetry Extra **9.00** Dilemma **9.30** Country Matters **10.00** A Capital Case Karl Marx Meets Sherlock Holmes
 11.00 TED Radio Hour 11.50 Inheritance Tracks 12.00 Round The Horne 12.30 Yes Minister 1.00 Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery 1.30 Agatha Raisin 2.00 In Montparnasse **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** Rock'n'Roll In Four Movements **3.00** A Capital Case — Karl Marx Meets Sherlock Holmes 4.00 Dilemma 4.30 Country Matters **5.00** Rock 'n' Roll In Four Movements **5.30** Hazelbeach 6.00 The Slide 6.30 A Good Read **7.00** Round The Horne **7.30** Yes Minister **8.00** Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery 8.30 Agatha Raisin 9.00 TED Radio Hour 9.50 Inheritance Tracks 10.00 Mark Steel's In Town 10.30 Rubbish 11.00 The News Quiz **11.30-12.00** Lionel Nimrod's Inexplicable World

7.00 Nick Ferrari 10.00 James O'Brien **1.00** Shelagh Fogarty **4.00** Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Tonight With Andrew Marr 7.00 lain Dale 10.00 lan Payne 1.00 Darren Adam 4.00 Steve Allen

RADIO 3

**6.30** Breakfast **9.00** Essential Classics **11.00** TBA **1.00** Lunchtime Concert. A live recital at London's Wigmore Hall, with the American-Israeli pianist Inon Barnatan performing pieces by Handel and Rachmaninov **2.00** Afternoon Concert. The Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra performs Beethoven's Symphony No 7 **4.30** New Generation Artists 5.00 In Tune 7.00 In Tune Mixtape **7.30** TBA **9.00** Composer of the Week: Emilie Mayer (R) 9.30 Northern Drift. Elizabeth Alker is joined at the Hebden Bridge Trades Club by the Barnsley poet and broadcaster Ian McMillan, along with the folk duo Bryony Griffith and Alice Jones **10.00** Music Matters. Tom Service talks to the American composer John Adams about his new opera, Antony and Cleopatra (R) 10.45 The Essay. The author Helen Cross reflects on the club scene in 1990s Birmingham and how an encounter with an oil painting led her to feel at home in this city (R) 11.00 Night Tracks 12.30 Through The Night

#### CLASSIC FM

**6.00** Tim Lihoreau **9.00** Alexander Armstrong **12.00** Lucy Coward **4.00** John Brunning **7.00** Zeb Soanes 10.00 Margherita Taylor 1.00 Bill Overton 4.00 Sam Pittis

#### RADIO 2

6.30 The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce. Susie Dent picks tracks **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Steve Wright **5.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Jo Whiley **9.00** The Blues Show **10.00** Trevor Nelson **12.00** OJ Borg **3.00** Pick Of The Pops (R) 4.00 Nicki Chapman

### VIRGIN RADIO

6.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show **10.00** Eddy Temple-Morris **1.00** Tim Cocker 4.00 Gaby Roslin 7.00 Steve Denyer 10.00 Olivia Jones 1.00 Sean Goldsmith 4.00 Steve Denyer

#### **TALKSPORT**

5.00 Early Breakfast 6.00 Breakfast With Laura Woods 10.00 Jim White And Simon Jordan **1.00** Hawksbee And Jacobs **4.00** Drive **7.00** Kick Off 10.00 Sports Bar 1.00 Extra Time

### **FACTUAL**

### **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

**6.00pm** Megafactories **7.00** Air Crash Investigation **8.00** World War II — Secrets From Above. New series. The most extraordinary events of the Second Word War from a unique perspective **9.00** Running Wild. Bear Grylls is joined by guest Rob Riggle **10.00** Wicked Tuna **11.00** Air Crash Investigation 12.00 Car SOS 1.00-2.00 Wicked Tuna

### DISCOVERY

6.00pm Kindig Customs 7.00 Junkyard Empire **8.00** Railroad Alaska **9.00** Wheeler Dealers 10.00 Chasing Classic Cars **11.00** Yukon Men **12.00** Mysteries Of The Deep **1.00-2.00** Wheeler Dealers

#### **PBS AMERICA**

5.25pm Nazi Hunters 6.25 Who Was The Real Neanderthal? 7.30 The Somme 1916 - From Both Sides Of The Wire **8.50** The Last Voices Of World War One 9.50 Nazi Hunters 10.45-12.00 The Somme 1916 - From Both Sides Of The Wire

#### SKY DOCUMENTARIES

6.00am Urban Secrets. In Newcastle **7.00** Discovering **8.00** The Directors 9.00 The 2000s. A look back to 2008 10.00 Premier League Legends 10.30 The Funeral Of Queen Elizabeth II **1.30**Gaming Wall St **4.00** The Directors 5.00 Discovering Laurence Harvey 6.00 The 2000s 6.50 Allen v Farrow 8.00 The Vietnam War 9.00 Lennox The Untold Story 11.00-1.00 LFG

#### **SKY NATURE**

6.00am Mysteries Of Evolution 7.00 Extreme Africa **8.00** Monkey Life **9.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **10.00** Baby Animals 10.30 The Funeral Of Queen Elizabeth II 1.30 Monkey Life 2.00 Extreme Africa 3.00 Into The Wild —India **4.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **5.00** Surviving The Amazon **6.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong **7.00** Monkey Life **8.00** Kingdom Of Plants 9.00 Deadly Australians 10.00 Surviving The Amazon 11.00-12.00 Mysteries Of The Mekong

#### **SMITHSONIAN**

6.00am Aerial America 10.00 The Deadliest Wave — Asian Tsunami 11.00 V-Day — Volcanic Planet 1.00 Volcanoes — Dual Destruction 2.00 Yellowstone Supervolcano **3.00** Age Of Humans **6.00** Earth Under Water 7.00 Inside The Factory 8.00 Food Factories — How They Work **10.00** Inside The Factory **11.00-12.00** Food Factories - How They Work

#### **CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5**

- 6.00 Breakfast The latest reports. 9.15 Morning Live Magazine show.
- 10.00 Northern Justice A man needs help after losing money in an investment arranged by a cold caller.
- 10.30 For Love Or Money A woman who lost thousands of pounds to an investment mentor (R)
- 11.15 Homes Under The Hammer Properties at auction.
- 12.15 Bargain Hunt Curios. (R)
- 1.00 News; Weather Reports.
- 1.45 Doctors Daniel has an uphill battle to prove himself to Izzie.
- 2.15 Money For Nothing (R) 3.00 Escape To The Country Two sisters search Somerset for a house with enough land for
- their own mini music festival. 3.45 Antiques Road Trip Natasha Raskin Sharp and Charles Hanson explore the East Riding of Yorkshire.
- 4.30 The Tournament Quiz show. **5.15 Pointless** Unorthodox quiz.
- 6.00 News; Weather Reports.
- 6.30 Regional News Update.
- 7.00 The One Show Features.
- 7.30 EastEnders Frankie finally tells Mick about her opportunity in Scotland; Janine tries to pluck up the courage to tell him her news; and Dotty causes tension at Kathy's
- 8.00 Celebrity MasterChef Wellknown faces compete in the kitchen, whipping up dishes from mystery ingredients in an effort to impress John Torode and Grega Wallace.
- 9.00 CHOICE Crossfire New drama, with Keelev Hawes and Anneika Rose. A woman's world is shattered when gunmen attack the Spanish hotel where she is on holiday with family and friends. (1/3; see Critics' choice)
- 10.00 News; Weather Reports. 10.40 Ambulance Crewmates attend a patient who is feeling suicidal, and the call out takes a turn when their charge begins hallucinating in the back of the ambulance. (Last in series, R)
- 11.40 Blankety Blank Bradley Walsh hosts the return of the comedy quiz show. (R)
- 12.15 RuPaul's Drag Race UK (R) 12.40-6.00 Joins BBC News

SCOTLAND 6.30 Reporting Scotland. 7.00 River City. 8.00 Disclosure. 10.40 Mental Health — Young Lives In Crisis. 11.40 Ambulance. 12.40 Blankety Blank. 1.15 RuPaul's Drag Race UK. 1.40 BBC News.

- **6.30 Money For Nothing (R)** 7.15 Antiques Road Trip (R)
- 8.00 Mary Berry Cook & Share Recipes. (Signed, R)
- 8.30 Nadiya's Everyday Baking Afternoon tea. (Signed, R)
- 9.00 News; Weather Headlines.
- 12.15 Politics Live Discussion.
- 1.00 Chase The Case (R)
- 1.45 Eggheads Team guiz. (R)
- **2.15 Politics Live** Updates. 3.15 Gardening Together (R)
- 3.45 Home Is Where The Art Is (R)
- 4.30 Murder, Mystery And My Family Investigation. (R)
- 5.15 Flog It! Selling valuables. (R) 6.00 House Of Games With guest panellists Charlie Baker, Val McDermid, Martin Offiah
- and Rebecca Lucy Taylor. 6.30 Unbeatable Quiz show. 7.00 Villages By The Sea The archaeologist Ben Robinson explores the history of the
- Cornish village of Botallack 7.30 Iolo — A Wild Life New series. Naturalist Iolo Williams recalls the past 25 years of
- filming in Wales. (1/8) 8.00 The Hotel People Chelsea FC book in to new General Manager Andy's hotel and the pressure is on to meet their needs; and a chef worries about running out of food at an event. (5/8, R)
- 9.00 The Boys from Brazil Rise Of The Bolsonaros The story of how the family reached the ultimate seat of power.
- 10.00 CHOICE Cunk On Earth New spoof documentary series telling the story of human civilisation from prehistoric times to the present day, covering history, science, culture and religion. With Diane Morgan. (See Critics' choice)
- 10.30 Newsnight The day's events. 11.15 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling The actor is given a taste of island life when his friend Phil MacHugh takes him on a journey back to his family's homeland
- 11.45 The Boys From Brazil Rise Of The Bolsonaros A look at Jair Balsonaro's time as president of Brazil since his inauguration in 2019, a period that has had a profound effect on the country and the world. (Last in series, R)

of the Western Isles. (R)

- 12.45 Celebrity Masterchef Culinary contest. (Signed, R)
- 3.15 Saving Lives At Sea Documentary. (Signed, R)

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain
- 9.00 Lorraine Lifestyle chat. 10.00 This Morning Features.
- 12.30 Loose Women Debate.
- 1.30 News; Weather Reports. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal David Dickinson and his team assess a variety of items.
- 3.00 Tenable A team of five friends answer questions about top 10 lists, then tries to score a perfect 10 in the final round.
- 4.00 Tipping Point Ben Shephard hosts the arcade-themed quiz in which contestants drop tokens down a choice of four chutes in the hope of winning a £10,000 jackpot.
- 5.00 The Chase Bradley Walsh presents the guiz show.
- 6.00 Regional News Update.
- 6.30 News; Weather Reports. 7.30 Emmerdale Leyla is in for a
- shock; Amelia decides to move out; and Faith and Eric have a drunken afternoon.
- 8.00 Vera Crime drama with Brenda Blethyn and Kenny Doughty, DCI Vera Stanhope is called to the scene when the body of addiction support worker Angela Konan is found hidden among the bleak woodlands of Northumberland national park. (Series 11, ep 2, R)
- 10.00 News At Ten Bulletin. 10.45 The National Television Awards Joel Dommett hosts
  - the 27th edition of the ceremony, as stars and fans gather for one of the biggest nights in British TV, from the OVO Arena, Wembley. (R)
- 1.00 Teleshopping Goods. 3.00 Take The Tower Dolph Lundgren challenges a team captain and friends to a series of games. (R)
- 3.50 Unwind Daily relaxation 5.05-6.00 Dickinson's Real Deal David Dickinson and his team assess more items. (R)



Earthy: Diane Morgan (BBC2, 10pm)

- 6.10 Countdown Gameshow. (R) 6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun (R)
- 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond Family comedy series. (R)
- 9.00 Frasier American sitcom. (R)
- 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA Advice. (R)
- 11.25 News; Weather Reports.
- 11.30 The Great House Giveaway A structural engineer and housewife renovate a property in Newcastle. (R)
- 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch
- 2.10 Countdown Gameshow. 3.00 A Place In The Sun Advice. (R)
- 4.00 Chateau DIY Insights.
- 5.00 Moneybags Quiz show.
- 6.00 The Simpsons Apu becomes the father of octuplets. (R)
- 6.30 Hollyoaks Chester soap. (R)
- 7.00 News; Weather Reports.
- 8.00 CHOICE The Great British Bake Off Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas present biscuit week, which sees the bakers make illusion macarons, a fruity favourite and a 3D
- biscuits. (See Critics' choice) 9.30 First Dates Hotel A chef is paired with man whose knowledge of local produce proves to be impressive; and an animal lover has a date with a man who has a collection of pet tarantulas.

mask made entirely from

- 10.35 Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard Fay Ripley joins Rosie to go coasteering in Pembrokeshire, but before that they stay the night in a decommissioned plane, feed crocodiles and go ghosthunting. (Last in series)
- 11.35 Gogglebox The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week, with cameras capturing their instant reactions. (R)
- 12.35 The Great British Bake Off - An Extra Slice (R) 1.30 The Last Leg Comedy. (R)
- 2.25 FILM: Goat Stars Ben Schnetzer. A student joins a college fraternity, only to endure brutal initiation rituals. Horrific. (2016, 15)
- 4.05 Sarah Beeny's New Life In The Country Transforming the kitchen from bare shell to hub of the family home. (R)
- 5.00 Amazing Spaces George Clarke meets a mother transforming a shed into a three-room haven. (R)
- 5.55-6.10 Sunday Brunch Best Bits With Big Zuu. (R)

- 6.00 Milkshake! Fun for children.
- 9.15 Jeremy Vine Debate.
- 12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun 1.40 News; Weather Reports.
- 1.45 Home And Away Rose is
  - exhausted from court and guilt-ridden about Cash.
- 2.15 FILM: Saving Billy Stars Anna Schafer. A woman realises that a hov has suffered a head trauma because of domestic abuse. Decent drama. (2021, PG)
- 4.00 Bargain Loving Brits By The Sea People who weave holiday magic for visitors to Skeaness and Blackpool, (R)
- 5.00 News; Weather Reports. 6.00 Cash In The Attic Chris
- Kamara and expert appraiser Kayleigh Davies visit Reading.
- 6.55 News; Weather Reports. 7.00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Graeme Hall takes on a
- boistrous English bulldog. (R) 7.55 News; Weather Reports.
- 8.00 The Yorkshire Vet With a baby alpaca's life hanging in the balance, Julian Norton performs an emergency blood plasma transfusion
- on the lawn of the practice. 9.00 CHOICE Michael Palin - Into Iraq New series. The broadcaster embarks on a revelatory journey through one of the most dangerous and complex countries in the
- world. (1/3; see Critics' choice) 10.00 The World's Most Luxurious Prison Ann Widdecombe takes a look inside Norway's Halden Prison, where inmates share plush flats, dine on sushi and even get to
- record rap records. (R) 11.05 My Son The Serial Killer David Wilson analyses the personality and motivations of the serial killer Steve Wright, who murdered five women in 2006 and became known as the
- Suffolk Strangler. (4/6, R) **12.05 Born To Kill:** The Yorkshire Ripper, Experts analyse the personality and motivations of Peter Sutcliffe, who murdered 13 women. (R)
- 1.00 The LeoVegas Live Casino
- Show Interactive gambling. 3.00 Entertainment News Gossip.
- 3.05 British Airways 24/7
- Access All Areas (R)
- 3.55 Building The Channel Tunnel **25 Years On** (R)
- 4.40 Now That's Funny! (R) 5.30-6.00 Children's Shows

### **VARIATIONS**

ITV WALES 10.45 Face To Face 11.15 Des O'Connor — The Ultimate Entertainer 12.15 Gino's Italy - Like Mamma Used to Make 12.45 Coast & Country BBC1 WALES 10.00 For Love Or Money **10.45** Homes Under The Hammer **11.45** X-Ray **10.40** Ruck Stars 11.10 Ambulance 12.10 Blankety Blank 12.45 BBC News BBC2 WALES 3.15 First Minister's Questions 4.05 Gardening Together. With Diarmuid Gavin **4.35** Weatherman Walking 5.05 Murder, Mystery And My Family 5.50 Nature's Weirdest Events

7.00 A Special School **S4C 6.00** Peppa 6.05 Jen A Jim Pob Dim 6.20 Y Brodyr Coala 6.30 Dwylo'r Enfys **6.45** Caru Canu A Stori **6.55** Shwshaswyn 7.05 Ein Byd Bach Ni **7.15** Nico Nog **7.25** Pablo **7.40** Amser Maith Maith Yn Ol 8.00 Bing 8.10 Wibli Sochyn Y Mochyn 8.20 Y Diwrnod Mawr **8.35** Digbi Draig **8.45** Asra 9.00 Olobobs 9.05 Blero Yn Mynd I Ocido 9.20 Jambori 9.30 Guto Gwningen **9.45** Cacamwnci **10.00** Peppa **10.05** Jen A Jim Pob Dim **10.20** Y Brodyr Coala 10.30 Dwylo'r Enfys

**10.45** Caru Canu A Stori **10.55** Shwshaswyn 11.05 Ein Byd Bach Ni 11.15 Nico Nog 11.25 Pablo 11.40 Amser Maith Maith Yn Ol 12.00 News **12.05** Pysgod I Bawb **12.30** Heno 1.00 Caeau Cymru 1.30 Cefn Gwlad **2.00** Prynhawn Da **3.00** News **3.05** Yr Ánialwch **4.00** Awr Fawr 5.00 Stwnsh 6.00 Sgwrs Dan y Lloer **6.30** Sgorio **6.57** News **7.00** Heno **7.30** News **8.00** Pobol **8.25** Rownd 8.55 News 9.00 Gwesty Aduniad 10.00 Ogof Gwddf Y Diafol **11.00-11.35** Codi Hwyl



Colin Murray on **Countdown** (C4) is a breath of fresh air after the unremitting smugness of Anne Robinson's tenure.

#### **Anne Wylie**

The delicious irony! The exquisite timing! The possible – and uncharacteristic – naughtiness of Susie Dent. In her Origins of Words slot, Susie discussed the origin of the word "smug". Was it just me or did I detect a somewhat forced smile on Colin Murray's face?

Angela McKendrick

# LISTINGS MAY BE SUBJECT TO LATE CHANGES

# **TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER**

### **CRITICS' CHOICE**

### Michael Palin — Into Iraq (C5, 9pm)

Four years after visiting North Korea, Michael Palin ticks off another country in George Bush's "axis of evil". Following the course of the Tigris over three episodes, he begins his journey with two northern cities: Mosul, which has yet to recover from Isis occupation, and thriving Arbil, capital of Iraqi Kurdistan. Initially, there is a sense of a rusty Palin, now 79 and recently kept at home by a heart condition, relearning how to do travel telly, but these early encounters are never less than absorbing, and a final section on a Kurdish spring festival – featuring gunfire and a torchlit procession up a mountain – is as good as anything in his peerless and extensive archive. John Dugdale



Coffee for one: Michael Palin gets back into his travelogue stride in Iraq (C5, 9pm)

# Book early for the holiday from hell

#### Crossfire (BBC1, 9pm)

Keeley Hawes stars in a pulsating thriller written by Louise Doughty, whose novel Apple Tree Yard became a hit series five years ago. Soon after arriving in the Canary Islands, Hawes's Jo, her husband and children and the two other families they're holidaying with, are caught up in an attack by gunmen at their hotel (perhaps drawing on the 2015 Tunisian hotel shooting). With most guests either hiding or fleeing, Doughty's script and Tessa Hoffe's direction skilfully sustain the tension as we see two versions of Io: a heroine here taking on the killers with the help of the manager, but in flashbacks a cheating wife and possibly an habitual liar. Continues tomorrow. John Dugdale

#### Cunk On Earth (BBC2, 10pm)

"Landmark documentary presenter" Philomena Cunk tackles the whole of human civilisation in this ambitious new series from the BBC. A veritable Kenneth Clark, Cunk (okay, Diane Morgan, scripted by Charlie Brooker and team) explains the invention of the wheel, or "circle", as well as tormenting academics with questions about Plato and mummies "of Scooby-Doo fame". The element of surprise is waning but there is an amazing take on computer animation along with lots of superbly stupid one-liners all framed in a perfect recreation of the Brian-Cox-shouting-on-aclifftop documentary style. Truly horrible history. Victoria Segal

# Ice Age Footprints (PBS America, 6.20pm)

Presented with enthusiasm by Smithsonian museum director Kirk Johnson, this is an engaging study of remarkable Ice Age footprints preserved at New Mexico's White Sands National Park. Some belong to mammoths and giant sloths; others, however, hold clues to the drama of human survival.



A mammoth task (PBS, 6.20pm)

### The Great British Bake Off (C4, 8pm)

Biscuit week arrives in a flurry of macarons and garibaldis. The florid architectural excesses of last year's challenges return during the showstopper, though, when bakers must create an upright 3D biscuit mask. Credit to the baker who takes a hammer to a dog bowl for her mould.

#### Unforgivable (Dave, 10pm)

Host Mel Giedroyc jokes here about being accused of stealing other shows' formats ("I mean, would I lie to you?"), but it is in the sinful spirit of a panel show in which contestants try to cast themselves in the worst light. Tonight's malefactors are Rhod Gilbert, Susan Wokoma and Dermot O'Leary. *Victoria Segal* 

### FILM CHOICE

### In The Heights (Sky Cinema Select, 1.45pm)

Lin Manuel Miranda's first stage musical – written long before his masterpiece, Hamilton – gets an energetic cinematic adaptation here. Anthony Ramos plays a bodega owner in Washington Heights, New York. He dreams of bigger things, though, as does his entire community. When word spreads that one among them has bought a winning lottery ticket, everyone's dreams feel a little closer. The songs are imaginatively staged by Jon M Chu and joyously performed by a superb, largely unknown, cast. (2021)

#### Topsy-Turvy (Film4, 12.15am)

In a change from his usual domestic dramas, Mike Leigh made this plush biopic of musical masters Gilbert and Sullivan. For all the handsome presentation and ripe comic performances, Leigh maintains his fascination with people's secret eccentricities. (1999) Olly Richards



Jim Broadbent (Film4, 12.15am)

### ON DEMAND

# The American Presidency (Sky/Now)

Hosted by Bill Clinton, the 42nd president of the United States, this six-part series presents itself as the television equivalent of an oak-panelled library: hushed and imposing. Yet beyond the formidable presentation, what we have is essentially a whistle-stop tour of American history through its heads of state. Divided into six episodes, each with an individual theme such as race, extremism and the economy, it is a series that shifts from the learned to the simplistic with curious ease. Any viewers looking for an in-depth discussion of such minor presidents as John Tyler and Millard Fillmore will be disappointed.

# House Of Hammer (Discovery+)

The tabloid headlines you may know: the disgraced Hollywood actor Armie Hammer, accused of violent sexual assault and now living in the Cayman Islands selling timeshares. The bigger story, about his dysfunctional billionaire family, is far more interesting. You just wish the film-makers had dialled back on the gossip and gone deeper in research.

#### The Suspect (ITV Hub)

We don't really have B-movies anymore, but we have absurd thrillers will illogical plots that rattle along and we should praise them for what they are. This is a smasher, with Aidan Turner playing it absolutely straight as a shifty clinical psychologist accused of murder. It is contrived, preposterous fun with all the cheap thrills of a pulp crime novel. Andrew Male

#### Top Gun — Maverick (Curzon Home Cinema)

The sequel to Tom Cruise's star-making hit was worth the 36-year wait. This is precision-engineered blockbuster stuff. In this story of pilot Maverick (Cruise) mentoring the son (Miles Teller) of his late friend Goose, the director Joseph Kosinski hits every beat you expect and does so with exquisite timing, earning each emotional moment. (2022) *OR* 

7.00pm Top Gear Motoring. 8.00 The Fast And The Farmer-ish Two teams of farmers from southwest Wales compete.

8.30 The Fast And The Farmer-ish The Teutchers take on the Black Reek Pipers in this Scottish heat.

- 9.00 Sexsomnia Case Closed? The remarkable story of one woman's battle for justice.
- 9.55 Diomysus More Than Monogamy Investigating what it means to be polyamorous in the UK today.
- 10.00 When Nudes Are Stolen The former glamour model Jess Davies uncovers the hidden trade in nude photographs.
- 10.45 This Country Comedy.
- **11.40 Ladhood** (Series 3, ep 4) 12.05 Sexsomnia — Case Closed?
- 1.00 When Nudes Are Stolen
- 1.45 The Fast And The Farmer-ish 2.45 This Country Comedy.
- 3.40-3.50 Press X To Continue

### **DRAMA**

- 12.00 The Bill Police drama series.
- 1.00 Classic FastEnders Soan
- 2.20 Monarch Of The Glen 3.20 A Place To Call Home
- Drama, (Series 6, ep 5) 4.20 All Creatures Great And
- Small (Series 1, ep 2) 5.20 Waiting For God Sitcom.
- 6.00 Are You Being Served?
- **6.40 'Allo 'Allo!** Classic comedy.
- 7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine Smiler meets his ideal woman.
- 8.00 Dalziel & Pascoe A leading football club's team bus is hit by a train. (Series 10, ep 2)
- 10.00 New Tricks A dead girl's voice on a cassette prompts the team to reopen her murder investigation. (Series 11, ep 10)
- **11.20 Spooks** (Series 5, ep 7)
- 12.40 Bad Girls (Series 3, ep 14)
- **1.50 The Heart Guy (S4, ep 3)**
- 2.50-4.00 A Place To Call Home Drama (Series 5, ep 6)

### BBC4

- 7.00pm Great American Railroad Journeys Michael Portillo meets scientists studying the Northern Lights in Alaska.
- 8.00 Keeping Up Appearances Hyacinth hears Emmet is rehearsing an amateur production of The Boyfriend
- 8.30 Ever Decreasing Circles Martin is horrified to find Paul has bought a neighbour's house. (Series 3, ep 6)
- 9.00 One Day In Ukraine A snapshot of a day in a country under siege, filmed on March 14.
- 10.20 Seamus Heaney And The **Music Of What Happens** Documentary about the life and work of the Irish poet.
- 11.50 The Celts Blood, Iron And Sacrifice Documentary.
- 12.50 Great American Railroad Journeys Travel series
  - 1.50-3.20 The Search For A New Earth Documentary.

# SKYARTS

#### 5.50pm Alfred Hitchcock

Presents: Fog Closing In. A patient who has escaped from an asylum breaks into a house. 6.20 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: De Mortuis, A professor's friends think he might have killed his wife.

- 6.50 Chasing Lights The Voyages Of Matisse Retracing the trips the artist made that influenced his work
- 8.00 Discovering George Clooney A profile of the American actor.
- 9.00 Discovering Jodie Foster A look at life of the double Oscar-winning actress.
- 10.00 Catherine The Great Catherine tries to deal with Potemkin's jealousy. (3/4)
- 11.10-12.40 The South Bank Show Melvyn Bragg is joined by the ballet star Carlos Acosta.

### ITV2

- 6.00pm Catchphrase Gameshow, with Chris Hoy, Martine McCutcheon and Faye Tozer.
- 7.00 Secret Crush Craig thinks chocolates and poetry can win over Sophie.
- 8.00 Bob's Burgers Gene learns the recipe for his favourite chocolate has changed. (Series 7, ep 12) **8.30 Bob's** Burgers Linda chaperones Tina to a conference.
- 9.00 Bad Chefs Things heat up as the contestants start to cook to stay in the competition under the eye of the guest chef Joseph Denison Carey.
- 10.00 Plebs The Crown and Toga is hit by a huge tax bill. (S4, ep 7) 10.30 Plebs Marcus has a run-in with the fire brigade.
- 11.00 Family Guy Peter and Lois open a cookie store (Series 13. ep 3) **11.30-12.00 Family Guy** Brian passes on herpes to Stewie. (Series 12, ep 16)

### ITV4

- 5.55pm Match Time Revisited 7.00 Who Wants To Be A
- Millionaire? Quiz show. 8.00 Heathrow — Britain's **Busiest Airport** Life at the terminal as the Covid-19 pandemic grips the nation. 8.30 Heathrow — Britain's **Busiest Airport** The Boeing 747 leaves for the final time
- 9.00 FILM: Jaws 2 Stars Roy Scheider. A shark menaces teenagers adrift off a seaside resort. Unrewarding thriller. (1978, PG; includes FYI Daily)
- 11.25 All Elite Wrestling
- Rampage Recent action.
- 12.35 Auto Mundial Motor sport.
- 1.05 Motorsport Mundial Action.
- 1.35 The Sweeney Drama. 2.25 The Protectors Drama.
- 2.50 Unwind Daily relaxation.
- 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.

### ITV3

- 6.00 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 Classic Emmerdale Soap
- 8.05 That's My Boy Sitcom.
- 9.15 The Royal Hospital series.
- 11.30 Heartbeat Rural drama.
- 1.40 Classic Emmerdale Soap. 2.40 Classic Coronation Street
- 3.45 Poirot The sleuth tries to unravel a Christmas murder mystery. (Series 6, ep 1)
- 5.55 Heartbeat Merton and Jenny prepare to tie the knot. 7.00 **Heartbeat** A suspicious death is investigated.
- 8.00 Martin Clunes Islands Of The Pacific In Vanuatu, the actor climbs an active volcano and meets a tribe who worship Prince Philip.
- 9.00 Midsomer Murders With Neil Dudgeon. Mysterious lights are seen in the sky, and when a forest ranger suffers a strange death, the visiting UFO spotters are convinced aliens are responsible.
- 11.05 Maigret The sleuth receives an unexpected visit from a provincial schoolteacher who is convinced that he will be accused of murder. (S1, ep 3)
- 12.15 The Royal Nurse Susie's negligence puts Mrs Middleditch's life at risk. 1.15 The Royal A student nurse is faced with a trying first day.
- 2.20 Unwind Daily relaxation. 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.



Sanders, Giedrovc (Dave, 10pm)

### **E4**

- 6.00pm The Big Bang Theory Sheldon teaches Leonard about American football. (S3, ep 6) **6.30 The Big Bang** Theory A jealous Leonard argues with Penny.
- 7.00 Hollyoaks Chester soap.
- 7.30 The Big Bang Theory Raj lusts after a girl at a party. (Series 3, ep 12)
- 8.00 Below Deck
  - Mediterranean Hannah experiences the ultimate betrayal when Ben goes to the Captain about their miscommunication.
- 9.00 Married At First Sight UK The third dinner party takes place, but little do the couples know that four newcomers are about to crash the party.
- 10.00 Celeb Cooking School One of the five remaining celebrities makes hot dog flavour dumplings.
- 11.05-12.05 Naked Attraction

# **MORE4**

- 5.55pm Car SOS Vehicle revamps. 6.55 Escape To The Chateau
  - Angel presses on with her plan to create a library in
- the pepper pot tower.
  7.55 Wondrous Wales Lambing season is in full swing for a family on the Black Mountain
- in the Brecon Beacons.

  9.00 Titanic Building The World's Largest Ship The untold story of the doomed steamship's construction.
- 10.00 24 Hours In A&E A 66-yearold man is admitted to A&F after sustaining a head wound during a 10-foot fall; and an arm injury threatens to leave a father-of-three unable to use his right hand.
- 11.05-12.10 Emergency Helicopter Medics Medical staff use battlefield dressings to try to stop a man bleeding to death.

### **FILMS**

### SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

6.10am Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon. A girl with unusual powers escapes from an asylum. (2021, 15) **8.00** Sing 2 (2021 II) 10.10 Murder At Yellowstone City (2022, 15) **12.30** Marry Me. A music superstar learns her partner has been unfaithful seconds before their planned marriage. (2022, 12) 2.35 Even Mice Belong In Heaven (2021, PG) 4.15 Sing 2. Buster Moon and his friends must persuade a reclusive rock star to join them for a new show. (2021, U) **6.15** Stowaway (2022, 15) **8.00** Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon. As 6.10am. **9.50** Marry Me. Details as 12.30pm. 12.00 Jockey (2021, 15) 1.55 Stowawa Details as 6.15pm. **3.40-6.00** Murder At Yellowstone City (2022, 15)

#### **SKY CINEMA THRILLER**

2.15pm Girl. A woman is intent on killing her father, only to discover someone murdered him already. (2020, 15) **3.55** Panic Room (2002, 15) 5.55 Lord Of War. A criminal becomes a global arms dealer. (2005, 15) **8.00** Teaching Mrs Tingle. A teen kidnaps the teacher who thwarted her ambitions. (1999, 15) **9.45** Girl (2020, 15) **11.30** Zola (2021, 18) 1.00-2.50 The Kid Detective (2020, 15)

### **SKY CINEMA GREATS**

6.00am Holiday Inn (1942, U) 7.50 Roustabout (1964, U) 9.35 Champion (1949, PG) 11.15 Blue Hawaii (1961, PG) 1.00 Alfie (1966, 15) 2.55 Good Will Hunting (1997, 15) 5.05 The Godfather. A crime family becomes involved in a battle for control of New York. (1972, 15) 8.00 The Godfather Part II. A mafia don's rise to power comes under threat from a traitor. (1974, 18) **11.20** Donnie Brasco. An FBI agent infiltrates the mafia and becomes the protégé of a gangster. (1997, 18) **1.30** Roustabout (1964, U) **3.15** Holiday Inn (1942, U) 5.00-6.00 Sky Cinema Preview

#### **SKY CINEMA SELECT**

1.45pm CHOICE In The Heights. Stars Melissa Barrera and Anthony Ramos. (2021, PG: see Film choice) **4.10** Pitch Perfect (2012, 12) **6.05** Pitch Perfect 2. The singers try to win the a cappella world championships. (2015, 12) **8.00** Mamma Mia! A bride asks her mother's old flames to her wedding to learn who her father is. (2008, PG) 10.00 Chicago. Two women in jail for murder vie for the sympathy of the public. (2002, 12) 12.00 The Hangover (2009, 15) **1.45** The Hangover Part II (2011, 15) **3.35** The Hangover Part III (2013, 15) 5.20-7.00 Dragon Rider (2021, PG)

#### FILM4

**11.00am** Destroyer (1943, U) **1.05** Red Mountain (1951, PG) **2.45** The Last Blitzkrieg. Second World War drama. (1959, 12) **4.30** Tobruk. Jewish resistance fighters set out to destroy Nazi fuel bunkers. (1967, PG) **6.40** The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel. A retirement home owner sets out to expand his empire. (2015, PG) **9.00**Once Upon A Time In Hollywood. A faded actor and his stunt double strive for fame in 1969 LA. (2019, 18) 12.15-**3.35 CHOICE** Topsy-Turvy. Stars Jim Broadbent. (1999, 12; see Film choice)

#### TALKING PICTURES TV

3.00pm Cast A Dark Shadow, A murderer plans to kill his wife and get her inheritance — only to discover it does not exist. (1956, PG) **4.45** The Bank Raiders. A getaway driver enjoys his share of the loot, until he realises the rest of the gang consider him a loose end to be disposed of. (1958, U) 6.00 Scotland Yard 6.35 Bombay Waterfront. Sleuthing novelist Paul Temple pursues a killer terrorising London, who leaves cryptic telegrams for the police. (1952, U) **8.00** Maigret. Mystery drama. **9.05** Van Der Valk. The detective investigates the shooting of an ex-judge. **11.15-12.15** Public Eye

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

#### GOLD

**7.00am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.40** Outnumbered **8.15** 2point4 Children 8.55 Hi-De-Hi! 9.35 Open All Hours **10.15** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.30** Desmond's **12.05** 2point4 Children 12.40 Dad's Army 1.20 Outnumbered 2.00 Keeping Up Appearances 2.40 Last Of The Summer Wine 4.00 Dad's Army **4.40** Open All Hours **5.20** Keeping Up Appearances 6.00 Hi-De-Hi! 6.40 Dad's Army 8.00 Porridge 9.20 The Office 10.40 This Time With Alan Partridge 11.20 The Cockfields 12.00 Peep Show **1.10** Porridge **2.30** The Office **3.35-4.00** Peep Show

#### SKY COMEDY

**6.00pm** Futurama **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** The Rehearsal 9.35 Somebody Somewhere **10.15** Bounty Hunters **11.30** The Late Late Show **12.25** The Tonight Show 1.20 Sex And The City 2.30 Entourage 4.00-5.00 Everybody Hates Chris

### SKY WITNESS

6.00pm Nothing To Declare 8.00 Blue Bloods **9.00** Law & Order: Organized Crime **10.00** Coroner **11.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit 12.00 The Equalizer

1.00 New Amsterdam 2.00 Bull 3.00 FBI 4.00 Road Wars 5.00-6.00 Brit Cops - Law & Disorder

**6.00pm** Property Brothers — Forever Homes **7.00** Masterchef Australia **8.00** DIY SOS 9.20 Dating With My Mates 10.20 Should I Go Under The Knife? 11.20 Stacey Dooley Sleeps Over 12.20 Inside The Ambulance — Coast And Country **1.15-3.00** Tipping Point

#### 5 STAR

6.00pm Home And Away 7.00 Caught On Camera — Funniest Moments 8.00 999 — Criminals Caught On Camera 9.00 Bargain Brits On Benefits 10.00 999 — Emergency Call Out **11.00** 999 - Critical Condition 12.00 Casualty 24/7 - Every Second Counts **1.00** Killer At The Crime Scene **2.00-4.00** Judge Judy

#### 5 USA

**6.00pm** NCIS **9.00** Law & Order: Criminal Intent 11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit 3.35-4.00 Criminals — Caught On Camera

#### **COMEDY CENTRAL**

8.00am Most Ridiculous Parks And Recreation 8.35 Most Ridiculous Teenage Kicks 9.00 Takeshi's Castle 10.00 Your Face Or Mine 11.00 Friends

6.00 James Max Morning update. 6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show Discussion.

10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham A look through the newspapers.

1.00 Ian Collins Monologues, debates and viewers' calls. 4.00 Vanessa Feltz Discussing

the big stories of the day. 7.00 The News Desk Debate.

8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored Debate and interviews. 9.00 The Talk Famous faces

debate the topics that everybody is talking about. 10.00 Daisy McAndrew A look at

the day's big stories. 11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored 12.00 Petrie Hosken The latest

news stories overnight. 4.00 The Talk Discussion.

5.00-6.00 James Max Update. Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237: Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

6.00pm Stargate SG-1 Colonel O'Neill is taken prisoner. (Series 6, ep 6, R) 7.00 Stargate SG-1 Jonas begs the Pentagon for help. (R)

8.00 A League Of Their Own Quiz show, with Kyle Walker, Russell Howard, Maisie Adam and David Walliams. (R)

9.00 The Blacklist Red turns to the Task Force to help him take down a heavily quarded bank on several airplanes with no flight plans or GPS

transponders. (S9, ep 20)

10.00 Strike Back — Vendetta Section 20 is deployed on a military mission targeting an insurgent training camp in Bosnia, (Series 8, ep 7, R)

11.00-12.00 Brassic Chinese Dan agrees to give his retired racing greyhound to Cardi. (Series 4, ep 2, R)

# SKYATLANTIC

6.00 Fish Town Brixham life 7.45 Boardwalk Empire Drama. 10.00 The Sopranos Double bill.

12.15 Ray Donovan Two episodes 2.25 Game Of Thrones (S3, ep 1)

3.30 Boardwalk Empire Eli's son Willie asks Nucky for a job. (S4, ep 7) 4.40 Boardwalk Empire Knox gets a break in his investigation into Nucky.

5.45 The Sopranos Johnny pursues a personal vendetta. (Series 4, ep 4) 6.50 The Sopranos Tony pays a visit to the track to check out Ralph's new horse.

7.55 Game Of Thrones Arya encounters the Brotherhood Without Banners. (S3, ep 2)

9.00 Irma Vep Mira must say goodbye to her role as Irma, but she is unable to resist using the character's spirit for an opportunity. (Last in series)

10.05 House Of The Dragon Game of Thrones prequel, with Paddy Considine, (5/10)

11.15 Munich Games Jackie Igelski is blackmailed. (3/6: German, Hebrew, Arabic and English with subtitles)

**12.15 Succession** (Series 1, ep 5) **1.20 In Treatment** (Series 2, ep 24) 1.50 11th Hour Short film.

2.00 Nightingale Psychological drama with David Ovelowo 3.30 In Treatment (S2, ep 25) 4.00-6.00 Fish Town Brixham life.



Ramos and Barrera (SCS, 1.45pm)

### **SPORT**

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT **6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans 10.00 The Football Show 12.00 News 3.00 LIVE T20 Cricket. Pakistan v England. Coverage of the first Twenty20 in the seven-match series, which takes place at National Stadium in Karachi **7.30** News **12.00** Total Access 1.00 News 2.00 LIVE WNBA: Las Vegas Aces y Connecticut Sun. Coverage of game five of the WNBA finals at Michelob Ultra Arena. Tip-off at 2.00 **4.00-6.00** News

#### FUROSPORT 1

Fame: Tokyo 2020 11.00 Cycling. The Road World championships 1.00 Australian Open Tennis 2.30 Motocross World Championship 3.00 FIA World Endurance Championship 4.00 Triathlon PTO Tour: Collins Cup **5.00** Triathlon: Embrunman Ironman **6.00**Triathlon PTO Tour: US Open **7.00** Equestrian **8.00** Speedway Grand Prix 9.00 EWC All Access 9.30 Motorsport: ESET V4 Cup **9.50** The French Open 11.00 Cycling. The Road World championships **1.00** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions **2.00** Cycling. The Road World championships 3.00 Cycling The Gent-Wevelgem **3.15** Cycling. The Road World championships **5.10-8.30** LIVE Cycling. The mixed team time-trial relay in the Road World championships from Wollongong in Australia

#### BT SPORT 1

6.00am ESPN FC 6.30 Currie Club 7.00 Primeira Liga 8.00 Premier League Review **9.00** Fishing – On The Bank **10.00** Uefa Champions League Magazine 10.30 Joe Cole Cast 11.00 Down The Clubhouse 12.00 LIVE World Baseball Classic. A qualifiers match 3.00 Premier League 4.30 ESPN FC **5.00** Premier League Review **6.00** Premier League Stories **6.30** Basebal Today In The UK **7.00** MLB Quick Pitch **8.00 LIVE** MLB: Los Angeles Dodgers v Arizona Diamondbacks. Coverage of the National League West match at Dodger Stadium. Start-time at 8.10 11.30 Premier League Reload 11.45 MotoGP Rewind 12.00 WWE NXT Highlights 1.00 LIVE WWE NXT 3.15 Jefa Champions League Review 4.15 Uefa Europa League Highlights Show 5.15 National League Highlights 5.45-6.00 Goals Reload

**8.20am** Cycling. The Paris-Roubaix **8.35** The French Open **10.00** Hall Of

#### 9.00 FILM: Police Academy 2 — Their First Assignment 10.45 Ridiculousness **11.45** South Park **1.45** The Ricky Gervais Show **2.50** Bob's Burgers **3.15** The Daily Show 3.50-5.00 Friends

#### YESTERDAY

8.00am Top Gear 9.00 World At War 10.00 War Factories 11.00 Abandoned Engineering 12.00 The Architecture The Railways Built 1.00 Bangers And Cash **2.00** Abandoned Engineering 4.00 War Factories 5.00 World At War 6.00 Top Gear 7.00 Abandoned Engineering **8.00** Train Truckers **9.00** Bangers And Cash 11.00 Abandoned Engineering 12.00-1.00 Top Gear

6.00pm Taskmaster 7.00 House Of Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie To You? **9.00** QI XL **10.00 CHOICE** Unforgivable. New run, with Mel Giedroyc and Lou Sanders. (See Critics choice) 11.00 OLXL 12.00 Mack The Week **12.40** QI **1.20** QI XL **2.25** Room 101 3.25-4.00 Mock The Week

#### FACTUAL

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** 6.00pm Megafactories 7.00 Air Crash Investigation. Documentary 8.00 Alaska — The Next Generation. Snow, ice, and gale force winds take hold of the landscape **9.00** Banged Up Abroad. New series. A hash smuggler is locked up in Japan 10.00 Narco Wars — Chasing The Dragon **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **12.00** Car SOS 1.00-2.00 Wicked Tuna

#### DISCOVERY

6.00pm Bitchin' Rides 7.00 Junkyard Empire **8.00** Railroad Alaska. Documentary **9.00** Gold Rush **10.00** Gold Rush — Dave Turin's Lost Mine 11.00 Yukon Men 12.00 Mysteries Of The Deep 1.00-2.00 Gold Rush

#### **PBS AMERICA**

5.25pm Nazi Hunters 6.20 CHOICE Ice Age Footprints, Examining the prehistoric footprints in New Mexico's White Sands national park. (See Critics' choice) **7.30** The Somme 1916 — From Both Sides Of The Wire 8.50 The Last Voices Of World War One 9.50 Nazi Hunters **10.45-12.00** The Somme 1916 From Both Sides Of The Wire

#### SKY DOCUMENTARIES

6.00am Urban Secrets 7.00 Discovering Donald Sutherland 8.00 The Directors 8.55 The 2000s 9.45 Allen v Farrow 11.00 The Vietnam War 12.00 Lancaster 2.00 Music Box

4.00 The Directors 5.00 Discovering Donald Sutherland **5.55** The 2000s **6.45** Allen v Farrow **8.00** The Vietnam War 9.00 The Last Movie Stars 10.00 I Am Alfred Hitchcock. A profile of the film-maker **11.40-1.55** The Scheme

#### **SKY NATURE**

6.00am Mysteries Of Evolution 7.00 Extreme Africa 8.00 Monkey Life 9.00 Malawi Wildlife Rescue **10.00** Into The Wild — India **11.00** Surviving The Amazon **12.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong 1.00 Monkey Life 2.00 Extreme Africa **3.00** Into The Wild — India **4.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **5.00** Surviving The Amazon **6.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong **7.00** Monkey Life **8.00** Wild Animal Babies **9.00** Amazing Animal Friends **10.00** Surviving The Amazon **11.00-12.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong

### **SMITHSONIAN**

6.00am Aerial America 7.00 Air Warriors **10.00** Food Factories — How They Work 12.00 Ninja — Shadow Warriors 1.00 Samurai Headhunters 2.00 Samurai Warrior Queens 3.00 China's Warrior Queen **4.00** Food Factories — How They Work **6.00** Searching For Secrets 7.00 Inside The Factory **8.00** The Pacific War In Colour **10.00** WWII Battles In Colour 11.00-12.00 The Pacific War In Colour

# **RADIO**

### **PICK OF THE DAY**



### **The Today Debate**

#### Radio 4, 8pm

A new series from the team behind the Today programme, hosted by Mishal Husain, pictured. It's 50 years since Idi Amin ordered the Asian population from Uganda, and in The Documentary (BBC World Service, 8pm) Reha Kansara and family return. Twitter favourites the **Exploding Heads (Anthony** Richardson and Mark Davison) launch Sports Horn (Podcast), a spoof of sports breakfast shows. Clair Woodward

5.30 News 5.43 Prayer 5.45 Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday In Parliament **9.00** The Life Scientific **9.30** One To One **9.45** Book Of The Week **9.45** (LW) Daily Service 10.00 Woman's Hour 11.00 The Curious Cases Of Rutherford & Fry 11.30 Icon. Press intrusion into the lives of Elizabeth Taylor and other celebrities 12.00 News 12.01 (LW) Shipping 12.04 Call You And Yours 1.00 The World At One 1.45 Reflections On Majesty **2.00** The Archers (R) **2.15** Drama: Calls From Far Away, by Katherine Soper **3.00** Short Cuts **3.30** BBC National Short Story Award **4.00** The Listening Project 4.30 Great Lives. Cressida Cowell chooses the children's author Astrid Lindgren 5.00 PM 5.54 (LW) Shipping 6.00 News 6.30 Alone **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.00** The Today Debate. Mishal Husain and a panel of experts discuss the current delay in the courts system 8.40 In Touch **9.00** Can The Police Keep Us Safe? (R) 9.30 The Life Scientific (R) **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book At Bedtime **11.00** Fortunately **11.30** Today In Parliament **12.00** News 12.30 Book Of The Week (R) 12.48 Shipping **1.00** World Service

#### **TIMES RADIO**

5.00 Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Aasmah Mir And Stig Abell With Times Radio Breakfast 10.00 Matt Chorley 1.00 Mariella Frostrup 4.00 John Pienaar With Times Radio Drive **7.00** Ed Vaizey. The Conservative peer and former MP sits in, bringing his take on the day's news **10.00** Carole Walker 1.00 Stories Of Our Times. The Times's daily podcast **1.30** Red Box **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge

#### RADIO 4 FXTRA

5.00 Hazelbeach 5.30 Mark Steel's In Town **6.00** Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **6.30** The Cry Of The Owl **7.00** The Break **7.30** Alone **8.00** The Goon Show **8.30** King Street Junior **9.00** The News Quiz **9.30** The Older Woman **10.00** Cold Comfort Farm **11.00** Good Luck Professor Spiegelhalter **12.00** The Goon Show 12.30 King Street Junior 1.00 Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **1.30** The Cry Of The Owl **2.00** In Montparnasse **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** The Blonde Women Of India 3.00 Cold Comfort Farm **4.00** The 3rd Degree **4.30** The Older Woman **5.00** The Break 5.30 Alone 6.00 The Slide 6.30 Soul Music **7.00** The Goon Show **7.30** King Street Junior **8.00** Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery 8.30 The Cry Of The Owl **9.00** Good Luck Professor Spiegelhalter **10.00** Alone **10.30** Think The Unthinkable **11.00** Party **11.30** 2000 Years Of Radio **11.45-12.00** Paperback Hell

7.00 Nick Ferrari 10.00 James O'Brien 1.00 Shelagh Fogarty 4.00 Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Tonight With Andrew Marr 7.00 lain Dale 10.00 lan Payne 1.00 Darren Adam 4.00 Steve Allen

#### RADIO 3

6.30 Breakfast 9.00 Essential Classics 12.00 Composer Of The Week (R) 1.00 Lunchtime Concert. From this year's Granada festival, the Casals Quartet play Mendelssohn **2.00** Afternoon Concert. The Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra perform Strauss's An Alpine Symphony 5.00 In Tune 7.00 In Tune Mixtape. An eclectic mix of music, including music by Bach, Barber and Schumann 7.30 In Concert, Recorded at the Barbican, London, Simon Rattle conducts the London Symphony Orchestra in Elgar's Second Symphony, Bridge's Enter Spring, and Sun Poem a new piece by Daniel Kidane 10.00 Free Thinking. New Generation Thinker David Petts from Durham University shares his findings on Holy Island **10.45** The Essay. The writer Dr Shahed Yousaf is driving home to Birmingham from a demanding day at work in prison. Shahed is a GP who works in prisons, substance misuse centres and with the homeless 11.00 Night Tracks. An adventurous, immersive soundtrack for late-night listening, from classical to contemporary and everything in between 12.30 Through The Night

#### **CLASSIC FM**

6.00 Tim Lihoreau 9.00 Alexander John Brunning 7.00 Lucy Coward 4.00
John Brunning 7.00 Zeb Soanes
10.00 Margherita Taylor 1.00
Bill Overton 4.00 Sam Pittis

### RADIO 2

6.30 The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jeremy Vine 2.00 Steve Wright 5.00 Sara Cox 7.00 Jo Whiley 9.00 The Jazz Show With Jamie Cullum **10.00** Trevor Nelson **12.00** OJ Borg **3.00** Pick Of The Pops (R) **4.00** Nicki Chapman

### VIRGIN RADIO

6.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show 10.00 Eddy Temple-Morris 1.00 Tim Cocker **4.00** Gaby Roslin **7.00** Steve Denver 10.00 Olivia Jones 1.00 Sean Goldsmith 4.00 Steve Denyer

#### TALKSPORT

5.00 Early Breakfast 6.00 Breakfast With Laura Woods 10.00 Jim White And Simon Jordan 1.00 Hawksbee & Baker **4.00** Drive With Andy Goldstein And Darren Bent **7.00** Kick Off 10.00 Sports Bar 12.00 Extra Time

#### **CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5**

- 6.00 Breakfast The latest reports. 9.15 Morning Live Magazine.
- 10.00 Northern Justice A post office worker accused of stealing.
- 10.30 For Love Or Money A woman who seems in denial that she is being scammed. (R)
- 11.15 Homes Under The Hammer Properties at auction. (R)
- 12.15 Bargain Hunt Curios. (R) 1.00 News; Weather Reports.
- 1.45 Doctors Scarlett finds an abandoned newborn baby.
- 2.15 Money For Nothing Items 3.00 Escape To The Country (R)
- 3.45 Antiques Road Trip Natasha Raskin Sharp and Charles Hanson travel from East to West Yorkshire.
- 4.30 The Tournament Quiz, hosted by Alex Scott.
- 5.15 Pointless Unorthodox quiz show, hosted by Alexander Armstrong and Sally Lindsay.
- 6.00 News; Weather Reports. 6.30 Regional News Update.
- 7.00 The One Show Features.
- 7.30 EastEnders Frankie sees Sonia and Janine talking about the pregnancy; Bernie persuades Dotty to face up to Rocky; and Eve encourages Suki to tell her what is wrong.
- 8.00 The Repair Shop Tim Gunn tries to get a unicycle back in gear; bookbinder Chris Shaw restores a bible; and Richard Talman works on a gold ring badly scorched after spending weeks in a fireplace.
- 9.00 Crossfire With Keeley Hawes. With the hotel shooters still at large, and crippled by fear for her own family, Jo summons the courage to rescue as many staff and guests as possible. (2/3)
- 10.00 News; Weather Reports
- 10.40 FILM: The Last Right Stars Michiel Huisman. A fateful exchange on a flight has consequences for a man, who finds himself in charge of a corpse of someone he never actually knew. Clichéd comedy drama. (2019, 15)
- 12.20 Ladhood Liam is asked to give a careers speech at his old school. (Series 3, ep 4, R)
- 12.50-6.00 Joins BBC News

SCOTLAND 2.15 Politics Scotland. 3.00 Money For Nothing. 6.30 Reporting Scotland. 10.40 Sportscene — Uefa Nations League Highlights. Scotland v Ukraine. 11.25 The Edit. 11.40 Debate Night. 12.40 Ladhood. 1.10 BBC News.

- **6.30 Escape To The Country (R)** 7.15 Antiques Road Trip (R)
- 8.00 Gardeners' World (Signed, R)
- 9.00 News; Weather Update.
- 11.15 Politics Live Discussion. 1.00 Chase The Case Game. (R)
- 1.45 Eggheads Team quiz. (R) 2.15 Glorious Gardens From
- Above Exploring the Scottish Borders by hot-air balloon. (R)
- 3.00 Flipping Profit Items. (R) 3.45 Home Is Where The Art Is (R)
- 4.30 Murder, Mystery And My Family Investigation. (R)
- 5.15 Flog It! In Worcestershire. (R) 6.00 House Of Games Trivia-based games, with Charlie Baker, Val McDermid, Martin Offiah
- and Rebecca Lucy Taylor. 6.30 Unbeatable Quiz show.
- 7.00 Villages By The Sea Ben Robinson learns more about the village of Ravenglass.
- 7.30 Iolo A Wild Life Iolo Williams goes in search of water voles in the Glaslyn Valley of Snowdonia.
- 8.00 Mary Berry Cook & Share
  The cook prepares a cricket tea at Edgbaston, Birmingham, for the England players, before stepping onto the crease for a coaching session.
- 8.30 CHOICE Nadiya's Everyday Baking Nadiya Hussain offers up her favourite go-to roasts, including lamb ribs for the perfect family feast and roast chicken with a punchy kimchi and miso makeover. (See Critics' choice)
- 9.00 CHOICE Escape From Kabul Airport Telling the inside story of the largest airlift in modern American history, which took place in August 2021 when America withdrew its troops from Afghanistan. (See Critics' choice)
- 10.15 Saving Lives At Sea RNLI crews race to try to save three people in the Bristol Channel, and a father and son trapped against a cliff face.
- 10.30 Newsnight The day's events. 11.15 Unspun World With John Simpson Discussing the week's global news stories
- 11.40 Cricket The second women's one-day international between England and India.
- 12.10 Ambulance (Signed, R) 1.10 All That Glitters — Britain's **Next Jewellery Star** Challenges. (Signed, R)
- 2.10 Mortimer & Whitehouse Gone Fishing (Signed, R)
- 2.40-3.10 How To With John Wilson Insights. (Signed, R)

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain 9.00 Lorraine Lifestyle chat.
- 10.00 This Morning Features.
- 12.30 Loose Women Debate.
- 1.30 News; Weather Reports.
- 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal 3.00 Tenable A team of five university friends answer
- questions about top 10 lists. 4.00 Tipping Point Ben Shephard
- presents the gameshow. 5.00 The Chase Quiz show,
- hosted by Bradley Walsh. 6.00 Regional News Update.
- 6.25 Party Political Broadcast By the Liberal Democrats.
- **6.30 News; Weather** Reports. 7.30 Emmerdale Dawn is worried:
- Dan drives Amelia further away; and Liam is concerned
- 8.00 Coronation Street Kelly abandons her party to accuse Gary of murder; Leo is intrigued to see Stephen lying to his family; and Evelyn provides Roy with a lead to . Hayley's missing coat.
- 9.00 Doc Martin Morwenna is back as receptionist; the Ellinghams have a new dog; Martin attends Stewart's survival course, but not as a participant like Al and Penhale; and Louisa agrees to help Pippa by speaking at the school assembly with Mrs Tishell. With Ben Miller. (Series 10, ep 3)
- 10.00 News At Ten Bulletin. **10.45 Peston** Political magazine show, with Robert Peston.
- 11.40 Jonathan Ross' Comedy Club Jonathan and co-host Mawaan Rizwan introduce sets from Nigel Ng, Bec Hill and Jordan Brookes: and Kerry Godliman will be trying
- out some new material. (R) 12.05 Teleshopping Goods. 3.00 James Martin's Great British Adventure The chef pays a visit to the Orkneys. (R)
- 3.25 Unwind Daily relaxation 4.40-6.00 The Masked Dancer (R)



Survivor: Ben Miller (ITV, 9pm)

- 6.10 Countdown Gameshow. (R) 6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun (R)
- 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond Family comedy series. (R)
- 9.00 Frasier American sitcom. (R) 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen
- Nightmares USA Advice. (R) 11.25 News: Weather Reports.
- 11.30 The Great House Giveaway Renovating a Hull property. (R)
- 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch
- 2.10 Countdown Gameshow. 3.00 A Place In The Sun Advice. (R)
- 4.00 Chateau DIY Insights.
- 5.00 Moneybags Quiz show.
- 6.00 The Simpsons Homer wins a motorcycle and forms his own gang — only to encounter trouble in the form of bikers the Hell's Satans. (R)
- 6.30 Hollyoaks Sid supports Victor at his mum's funeral and reassures Juliet he will be fine as there will be armed guards around. (R)
- 7.00 News; Weather Reports. 8.00 CHOICE Handmade
  - Britain's Best Woodworker New run. Mel Giedrovc returns with the carpentry contest, which sees 10 enthusiasts create projects combining fine craftsmanship with cutting-edge design, in an effort to impress the judges Tom Dyckhoff and Sophie
- Sellu. (See Critics' choice) 9.00 Grand Designs Kevin McCloud meets a pair who want to create a home that reflects their 7imbabwean and Australian backgrounds. setting out to build a house in the Chess Valley with a radical multicultural design, which is especially daring for their commuter-belt suburb.
- 10.00 Dispatches Charting the work of the debt advisors at Citizens Advice as Britain suffers the worst cost of living crisis in 70 years, following the stories of three people struggling to get by.
- 11.05 The Great Catherine and Peter avoid their feelings for each other as they co-parent their newborn son - but when the baby goes missing, they are driven together in their quest to find him. (S2, ep 9)
- 12.10 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA Advice. (R)
- 1.00 Food Unwrapped Does Breakfast Celebrating the great British breakfast. (R)
- 1.55 Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard (R) 2.50 A Very British Job Agency (R) **3.45-6.10 Come Dine With Me** (R)

- 6.00 Milkshake! Fun for children.
- 9.15 Jeremy Vine Debate.
- 12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun 1.40 News; Weather Reports.
- 1.45 Home And Away Felicity's world is unravelling; and the surf club committee worries about the reputation
- of its star lifeguard. 2.15 Secret Lives Of Housewives Drama, with Jessica Morris. When a married woman finds out that her young almost-lover has died, she is devastated, but must hide her grief from her husband.
- 4.00 Bargain Loving Brits By The Sea A young apprentice joins
- a donkey ride business. (R) 5.00 News; Weather Reports.
- 6.00 Cash In The Attic Jules Hudson and appraiser Jessica Wall are in Caerphilly.
- 6.55 News; Weather Reports. 7.00 The Highland Vet A fouryear-old Belgian shepherd suffers a serious leg injury after jumping into a river; a peahen has an eve injury:
- keeps biting people. (R) 7.55 News; Weather Reports. 8.00 Police Interceptors A dog handler finds himself on the tail of a runaway Renault

and a boisterous pony

- being driven erratically. 9.00 Casualty 24/7 — Every Second Counts A 17-year-old arrives after falling from his bike and suffering a fit, and a consultant needs to find out if a broken neck is the cause of his arm numbness
- 10.00 Ambulance Code Red A motorcyclist with a head injury must be put into an induced coma on the roadside; and a man who collapsed with a heart attack is also showing symptoms of Covid-19. (R)
- 11.05 A&E After Dark The staff of Hull Royal Infirmary are shocked when a young man is brought in with lifethreatening stab wounds; and a patient decides to steal an ambulance. (R)
- 12.05 999 Criminals Caught On Camera CCTV footage. (R) 1.00 The LeoVegas Live Casino
- Show Interactive gambling. 3.00 Entertainment News Gossip.
- 3.05 British Airways 24/7
  - Access All Areas (R)
- 3.55 Building The Channel Tunnel Race To The Finish (R)
- 4.40 Now That's Funny! (R)
- 5.30-6.00 Children's Shows

### **VARIATIONS**

BBC1 WALES 10.40 Walescast 11.10 Rewind — 60 Years Of Welsh Pop 11.40 FILM: The Last Right. Stars Michiel Huisman. Comedy drama 1.20 BBC News **\$4C 6.00** Cyw: Blociau Rhif 6.05 Do Re Mi Dona 6.20 Sam Tan **6.30** Sbarc **6.45** Anifeiliaid Bach Y Byd 6.55 Nos Da Cyw 7.05 Cei Bach **7.20** Odo **7.30** Octonots 7.45 Fferm Fach 8.00 Ty Mel 8.10 Halibalw 8.20 Rapsgaliwn 8.35 Sion Y Chef **8.45** Antur Natur Cyw **9.00** Y Crads Bach 9.05 Stiw 9.20 Byd Tad-Cu 9.30 Patrol Pawennau

9.45 Gwdihw 10.00 Blociau Rhif 10.05 Do Re Mi Dona 10.20 Sam Tan 10.30 Sbarc 10.45 Anifeiliaid Bach Y Byd **11.00** Dysgu Gyda Cyw: Ti Fi A Cvw 11.05 Sbridiri 11.25 Olobobs 11.30 Blero Yn Mynd I Ocido 11.45 Sbarc 12.00 Newyddion A'r Tywydd **12.05** Cwpwrdd Epic Chris **12.30** Heno **1.00** Welsh Whisperer — Ni'n Teithio Nawr! 1.30 Garddio A Mwy 2.00 Newyddion A'r Tywydd 2.05 Prynhawn Da 3.00 Newyddion A'r Tywydd 3.05 Gwesty Aduniad 4.00 Awr Fawr: Odo 4.10 Y Crads Bach

4.15 Byd Tad-Cu 4.25 Sigldigwt Byw 5.00 Stwnsh: Oi! Osgar 5.10 Dreigiau — Marchogion Berc 5.35 Itopia **5.55** Ffeil **6.00** Adre **6.30** Rownd A Rownd 6.57 Newyddion **7.00** Heno. Magazine **7.30** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **8.00** Pobol Y Cwm. Britt deceives her husband and her new business partner 8.55 Newyddion A'r Tywydd **9.00** Symud I Gymru. New series. Potential house buyers are shown homes within their budget 10.00 Sgorio Rhyngwladol 10.30-11.35 Ty Am Ddim



**Sunset Song** was pure poetry in a drama. BBC4, if you have any more of these gems, like this and the recent Sartre series The Roads To Freedom, for pity sake, please, pull them out.

**Pauline Clarke** 

Enjoying Michael Portillo's journey through **The** Pyrenees (C5). However, his walking stick should be in his left hand if he has an arthritic right hip. Robert Allen

Send your comments to: telly@sunday-times.co.uk

# LISTINGS MAY BE SUBJECT TO LATE CHANGES

### **WEDNESDAY** 21 SEPTEMBER

### **CRITICS' CHOICE**

#### Handmade — Britain's Best Woodworker (C4, 8pm)

So many television contests have followed Bake Off's breadcrumb trail that the craft gurus' promotion of DIY now seems aggressive: if your house isn't stuffed with wonky pottery, wobbly occasional tables or mangled silver jewellery, these shows suggest, then what are you doing with your life? Presented by Mel Giedroyc – accompanied by new judges Sophie Sellu and Tom Dyckhoff – this woodworking vehicle doesn't mess about, immediately demanding that ten contestants create a six-seater dining table inspired by a country close to their heart. Giedroyc is at full comic Bake Off strength here, but there is a Scandi simplicity to a show about wood and the people who love it. Victoria Segal



Can't see the wood for the contestants: these ten put their cards on the table (C4, 8pm)

# That's some trip of a lifetime

# Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard (All4)

The latest instalment of Rosie Iones's travel series (all episodes are available on All4) sees the comedian. writer and thespian visit Pembrokeshire with actress Fay Ripley, swimming, horse-riding, cliff-diving, making Welsh lovespoons, visiting alligators and talking to paranormal investigators. In the series, Jones and her other celebrity pals, including Scarlett Moffatt and Guz Khan, have taken on physical challenges that most of us would think twice about – skydiving, zip-wiring and abseiling – despite Jones facing personal challenges from living with cerebral palsy, which made her an insightful presenter for Channel 4's Tokyo Paralympics coverage in 2020. Clair Woodward

### Escape From Kabul Airport (BBC2, 9pm)

This documentary by Jamie Roberts assembles the survivors of the evacuation of Kabul, civilian and military, refugee and Taliban, recreating the chronology of the 18 days in August 2021 when American marines defended the airport's runways. As gunmen entered Kabul, terrified citizens fled to a scene of "carnage". About 124,000 were evacuated, at a cost of 170 Afghan lives and 13 military personnel. This is an important historical document, one that puts to rest President Biden's assertion that the mission was an "extraordinary success". As engrossing and sickening a 93 minutes as this previewer has ever spent. Helen Stewart

#### Hire Me — Competing For A Dream Job (BBC3, 8pm)

The Radio 1Xtra presenter Snoochie Shy hosts a new series in which trios of young hopefuls vie for coveted jobs. Getting to sell luxury properties is the goal in an engaging opener – Alisha, Ellie and Leon have to conduct viewings and pitch themselves as "brokers" to Rob Rinder.



Hoping against hope (BBC2, 9pm)

# Nadiya's Everyday Baking (BBC2, 8.30pm)

Nadiya moves on to roasts this week and is typically enthusiastic (one creation is called "stratospheric") as she cooks onions, lamb ribs, chicken with leeks and a whole sea bass with a citrus coating. In the guest chef slot, a pie-maker from South Africa bakes a potato and cheese pie.

### The Truth About My Murder (CBS Reality, 10pm)

Richard Shepherd, a forensic pathologist, anchors a truecrime series starting with the so-called "jigsaw murder" of a man whose body parts were scattered in Hertfordshire in 2009. Don't stop watching once the case is solved – there are bombshells in the trial. *John Dugdale* 

### FILM CHOICE

### The Great Escape (Film4, 3.15pm)

Yes, you are allowed to watch this even when it's not a bank holiday. There's not a lot that hasn't been said about John Sturges's Second World War classic about a group of prisoners of war from different countries planning to break out of a Nazi camp. Steve McQueen turns his movie-star glint to maximum as the swaggering American Cooler King, leaving the rest of the stellar cast – James Garner, Richard Attenborough, Charles Bronson – a little in his shadow. It could be watched a million times and its best moments would still thrill. (1963)

#### Shaolin Soccer (Sky Cinema Action, 6.30am/6.15pm)

At the start of the century, Stephen Chow announced himself as one of the world's most creative comedy filmmakers. *Kung Fu Hustle* (2004) is his best, but this madcap story of Shaolin monks using martial-arts skills for football runs a close second. (2001) *Olly Richards* 



It's kicking off: Chow (SCA, 6.15pm)

### ON DEMAND

### American Gigolo (Paramount+)

Erotic thrillers are having a moment, with praiseworthy podcasts and *New York Times* articles arguing about how they subverted the male gaze and brought female desire into the mainstream. Simultaneously, the reviews of this modern-day

reworking of Paul Schrader's 1980 neo-noir have shrunk from its graphic depictions of sex and criticised its whodunnit structure as beneath them. But this is a high-grade, big-budget erotic thriller of the darkest kind, anchored by Jon Bernthal's brooding central performance as the Hollywood hustler with the bleak back story. Admittedly not all the subplots work, but if you like your LA sleaze with subtext, this is for you.

### Red Rose (BBC iPlayer)

Created by screenwriting twins Paul and Michael Clarkson, this eight-part teen horror about a sinister phone app gets two things absolutely right. It understands how teenagers speak to each other and it knows that some of the finest horror tales have their roots in real life. Go beyond the jump-scares and you will find one of the best TV dramas about working-class life in 2022.

### Redemption (Walter Presents on All4)

A recent recommendation from the *notesonfilm1.com* blog, this modern-day Italian noir about a disgraced cop (Alessandro Gassmann) investigating the suicide of his estranged son is political, labyrinthine and moving; worth watching just to study Gassmann's incredible performance as the broken, bereaved detective. *Andrew Male* 

### North By Northwest (BBC iPlayer)

Cary Grant plays a New York ad executive who is mistaken for a secret agent, framed for murder and then pursued across the country in Alfred Hitchcock's classic thriller. Eva Marie Saint is the requisite blonde he falls for but doesn't entirely trust. Honestly, film directing doesn't get any better. Every scene is honed to perfection. (1959) *OR* 

7.00pm Top Gear A visit to the Nürburgring circuit, Germany. 8.00 CHOICE Hire Me-

**Competing For A Dream Job** New series. Snoochie Shy presents as young hopefuls battle for a job in their dream industry. (See Critics' choice)

8.30 We Are England Following the owner of a handmade chocolate business.

9.00 FILM: The Divergent Series - Insurgent Stars Shailene Woodley, Kate Winslet and Jai Courtney. An outsider in a regimented society faces a conflict that threatens to

tear her civilisation apart.

Lacks impact. (2015, 12)

10.50 Starstruck Comedy series. 12.00 As 8pm

12.30 We Are England Insights. 1.00 The Rap Game UK Contest. 2.00 Starstruck (Series 2, ep 1)

3.10-4.00 Cuckoo Comedy.

### **DRAMA**

12.00 The Bill Police drama series. 1.00 Classic FastEnders Soan

2.20 Monarch Of The Glen

3.20 A Place To Call Home Matt

and Elizabeth exchange some home truths. (S6, ep.6)

4.20 All Creatures Great And Small Rural drama series. 5.20 Waiting For God Sitcom.

6.00 Are You Being Served?

6.40 'Allo' Allo! Classic comedy

7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine

8.00 The Coroner A death in custody brings Jane into contact with a killer, (\$2, ep.6)

9.00 Whitechapel The killer runs rings around Chandler and Miles. (Series 4, ep 4)

10.00 New Tricks A policeman's body is found. (Series 12, ep 1)

**11.20 Spooks** (Series 5, ep 8)

12.40 Bad Girls (Series 3, ep 15) 1.50 The Heart Guy (\$4, ep 4)

2.50-4.00 A Place To Call Home

### BBC4

7.00pm Great American Railroad Journeys Michael Portillo crosses over from Alaska to Canada.

8.00 From Ice To Fire — The Incredible Science Of Temperature Helen Czerski explores the science of temperature, beginning at the bottom of the scale. (1/3)

9.00 World War Two - A Timewatch Guide Saul David charts the history of the war and examines the most important stories.

10.00 Our Friends In The North Nicky and Geordie meet in London. (4/9) **11.15 Our** Friends In The North Eddie sweeps to victory. 12.25 Our Friends In The North Nicky stands for Parliament.

1.40 Great American Railroad **Journeys** (Series 4, ep 3) **2.40-3.40 World War Two** —

A Timewatch Guide

# SKYARTS

6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock

Presents: Kill With Kindness A woman struggles to keep the mind of her brother on the task of murder. 6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: None Are So Blind. An antiques dealer feels he should be enjoying the finer things in life

7.00 Landscape Artist Of The Year A new batch of artists must paint Rhossili Bay on the southwestern tip of the Gower Peninsula

8.00 Book Club With Tahmima Anam and Raven Smith.

9.00 Chasing Trane — The Story Of John Coltrane Documentary examining the life of the jazz musician

11.00-12.00 The Seventies A look at the effect of shifting gender roles and the relaxing of censorship. (7/8)

### ITV2

6.00pm Celebrity Catchphrase Dion Dublin, Rachel Riley and Tim Vine take part in the quiz

7.00 Secret Crush Idris opens up to Frankie; and Demi offers to move closer to Jac.

8.00 Bob's Burgers Bob realises he could learn from Linda's customer service skills (Series 7, ep 14) 8.30 Bob's **Burgers** Tina is recruited by Wagstaff's debate team.

9.00 Bad Chefs Guest chef Sophie Wyburd teaches everyone how to cook macaroni cheese.

10.00 Family Guy The Griffins find themselves stuck in Springfield, home to the Simpsons. (Series 13, ep 1) 11.00 Family Guy Peter becomes an intelligent classy person. (S12, ep 17)

11.30-12.00 American Dad! Francine poses as a widow while Stan is away on a mission. (Series 12, ep 13)

### ITV4

5.55pm Match Time Revisited

Elton Welsby presents football highlights from November 1981

7.00 Uefa Nations League: Scotland v Ukraine. All the action from the Group B1 encounter, live at Hampden Park. Kickoff at 7.45.

10.00 FILM: The Krays Stars Gary and Martin Kemp, and Billie Whitelaw. Biopic of the twins who ruled east London's gangland with a rod of iron in the 1960s. Intelligent. (1990, 18; includes FYI Daily)

12.35 The Sweeney The death of a gangland leader sparks bitterness. (Series 3, ep 8)

1.35 Minder Arthur becomes involved with a gambler. **2.35 Unwind** Daily relaxation.

3.00-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.

### ITV3

6.00 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 Classic Emmerdale Soap

8.05 That's My Boy Sitcom.

9.15 The Royal Medical drama.

11.30 Heartbeat Rural drama.

1.40 Classic Emmerdale Soap. 2.40 Classic Coronation Street

3.45 Poirot A spate of petty thefts culminates in a series of murders. (Series 6, ep 2)

5.55 Heartbeat Gina grows increasingly unhappy at the thought of having to give up her job to marry a policeman. 7.00 Heartbeat Three farm children are left orphaned by the death of their father.

8.00 Lewis The murder of a babysitter whose elbows and wrists were elaborately tied after her killing leads Lewis and Hathaway into a world of squats, suburban swinging and fetish photography. (Series 6, ep 3)

10.00 Wycliffe Family feuds and illicit relationships are highlighted by the apparent suicide of an amateur flautist on a secluded country estate. (Series 1, ep 2)

11.05 Maigret An elderly woman claims someone is moving her belongings - and then she is found dead. (S1, ep 4)

12.15 The Royal Medical drama. 2.20 Unwind Daily relaxation. 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.



Don't be shy: Snoochie (BBC3, 8pm)

### **E4**

6.00pm The Big Bang Theory Leonard, Raj and Howard go camping. (S3, ep 8) **6.30** The Big Bang Theory Kripke plays a prank on Sheldon.

7.00 Hollyoaks Chester soap.

8.00 Below Deck -

Mediterranean The bachelor charter guests bring back a large group of ladies on board; and Danny continues to lose the respect of his crew by breaking yet another rule.

9.00 Married At First Sight UK It is the halfway point of the series and a pivotal time in the process, as the experts deliver some hard-hitting truths to help the couples progress on their journey.

10.25 Send Nudes — Body SOS A woman who has lost 11 stone, but gained pounds of excess skin, and a drag queen who wants a more shapely bum.

11.30-12.35 Gogglebox Opinions.

# **MORE4**

5.55pm Car SOS Vehicle revamps. 6.55 Escape To The Chateau

Dick and Angel Strawbridge focus on the wash house.

7.55 Wondrous Wales Charting the work of conservationists to preserve breeding pairs of ospreys, including one with a nest that was destroyed with a chainsaw.

9.00 24 Hours In A&E An actor receives worrying news while visiting St George's Hospital with a suspected broken shoulder; and two pensioners arrive after being knocked over by a motorcyclist.

10.00 24 Hour Baby Hospital A couple return to the Rotunda hoping for the safe arrival of their baby girl.

11.05-12.10 24 Hours In A&E A pub landlord is brought in with badly burnt legs.

### **FILMS**

SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

6.00am Last Looks. A PI recruits a disgraced cop to investigate a murder. (2021, 15) 8.10 Murder At Yellowstone City (2022, 15) **10.35** Marry Me. Two music superstars are preparing to get married, but then she learns that he has been unfaithful. (2022, 12) 12.35 Monstrous. A terrifying new horror awaits a woman and her seven-yearold son when they flee her abusive ex-husband. (2022, 15) **2.25** Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon (2021, 15) **4.15** Stowaway (2022, 15) **6.00** Last Looks. Details as 6am. **8.00** Marry Me. Details as 10.35am. 10.10 Monstrous. Details as 12.35pm. 12.00 Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon. As 2.25pm. 1.50 Murder At Yellowstone City. Details as 8.10am. **4.15-6.00** Stowaway. As 4.15pm

**SKY CINEMA THRILLER** 

**2.35pm** The Good Neighbour (2022, 15) **4.30** The Desperate Hour (2021, 12) 6.00 Traitor. Two FBI men track a former agent. (2008, 12) **8.00** The Da Vinci Code. An academic falsely accused of murder uncovers a dangerous conspiracy. (2006, 12) **10.30** The Good Neighbour. Details as 2.35pm. 12.15-2.25 Serpico (1973, 18)

**SKY CINEMA GREATS** 

6.00am Hondo (1953, PG) 7.40 Champion (1949 PG) 9.30 Good Will Hunting (1997, 15) **11.40** Young At Heart (1954, U) **1.40** The Godfather (1972, 15) **4.40** The Godfather Part II (1974, 18) **8.00** Close Encounters Of The Third Kind — Collector's Edition. A repairman's obsession with UFOs drives his family to despair. (1998, PG) **10.20** The Bridge On The River Kwai. A British colonel in a Japanese PoW camp must build a railway bridge. (1957 PG) 1.05 Sunset Boulevard (1950, PG) **3.05** Hondo. As 6am. 4.45-6.50 Young At Heart. As 11.40am.

**SKY CINEMA SELECT** 2.30pm The Hangover Part III (2013, 15) **4.15** Charlie's Angels (2000, 15) **6.05** Charlie's Angels — Full Throttle (2003, 12) **8.00** The Truman Show. A man's every move is secretly filmed 24 hours a day for a television soap. (1998, PG) **9.45** Ted. A lonely boy's magical foul-mouthed living toy remains his friend into adulthood. (2012, 15) **11.35** Ted 2. The foulmouthed teddy bear fights for the right to be legally recognised as a person. (2015, 15) **1.35** Fifty Shades Of Grey (2015, 18) **3.45** Last Seen Alive (2022,

15) 5.30-6.00 Sky Cinema Preview

FILM4

11.00am Ten Wanted Men. A lawabiding Arizona rancher unwittingly makes an enemy of a neighbour. (1955, U) **12.40** Mary, Queen Of Scots. Biopic of the 16th-century monarch whose opposition to Elizabeth I led to her downfall and execution. (1971, PG) 3.15 CHOICE The Great Escape. Stars Steve McQueen, Second World War drama, (1963, PG; see Film choice) **6.45** The Post. In 1971, American newspapers race to expose a government cover-up of Vietnam War secrets. (2017, 12) 9.00 Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade. The intrepid archaeologist sets out to find his father, who has gone missing while searching for the Holy Grail. (1989, PG) 11.35 12 Years A Slave. A black man in pre-Civil War New York is abducted and spends years living in slavery. (2013, 15) 2.15-4.00 The Dead Center (2018, 18)

TALKING PICTURES TV

3.00pm The Sea Shall Not Have Them (1955, U) 5.05 Train Of Events. An anthology of four stories. (1949, PG) **6.50** The Edgar Wallace Mystery Theatre **8.00** The Onedin Line **9.00** Magic. An unstable ventriloguist falls under the influence of his dummy. (1978, 15) 11.10-12.10 The Champions

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

GOLD

**7.00am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.40** Outnumbered **8.15** 2point4 Children 8.50 Hi-De-Hi! 9.30 Still Open All Hours **10.10** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.30** Desmond's **12.05** 2point4 Children 12.40 Dad's Army 1.20 Outnumbered 2.00 Keeping Up Appearances 2.40 Last Of The Summer Wine 4.00 Dad's Army **4.40** Still Open All Hours **5.20** Keeping Up Appearances **6.00** Hi-De-Hi! **6.40** Dad's Army **8.00** Porridge **9.20** The Office **10.00** Live At The Apollo 11.00 The Cockfields 11.40 Peep Show **12.50** Porridge **2.15** The Office **2.50** 2point4 Children **3.20-4.00** Desmond's

SKY COMEDY

**6.00pm** Futurama **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** The Rehearsal 9.35 Vice Principals 10.45 Bloods 11.15 Real Time With Bill Maher 12.25 The Late Late Show 1.15 The Tonight Show 2.15 Entourage 4.00-5.00 Everybody Hates Chris

**SKY WITNESS** 

6.00pm Nothing To Declare 8.00 Blue Bloods. Danny and Erin clash **9.00** New Amsterdam. The hospital falls victim to a ransomware attack

10.00 Bull. The team handles a class action against a vaping company 11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit 12.00 The Equalizer 1.00 FBI 4.00 Road Wars 5.00-6.00 Brit Cops — Law & Disorder

6.00pm Property Brothers — Forever Homes 7.00 Masterchef Australia 8.00 Dating With My Mates 9.00 The Undateables, Documentary 10.00 The Baby Has Landed **11.00** One Born Every Minute **12.00** My Famous Babysitter **1.00-3.00** Tipping Point

**6.00pm** Home And Away **7.00** GPs

— Behind Closed Doors **8.00** Casualty 24/7 — Every Second Counts **9.00** 999 Emergency Call Out 10.00 999 Critical Condition 11.00 Skin A&E 11.55 Railway Killers **2.00-4.00** Judge Judy

5 USA

6.00nm NCIS 9.00 Criminal Minds 10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **2.50** Private Eyes **3.35-4.00** 999 - Criminals Caught On Camera

**COMEDY CENTRAL** 

8.00am Most Ridiculous: United Of Stupidity 8.35 Most Ridiculous: Tiny Terrors 9.00 Takeshi's Castle 10.00 Your Face Or Mine 11.00 Friends

- 6.00 James Max Top stories. 6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer **Breakfast Show** Reports.
- 10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham A look at the morning newspapers.
- 1.00 Ian Collins Hard-hitting monologues and debates.
- 4.00 Vanessa Feltz Debate.
- 7.00 The News Desk With Tom Newton Dunn.
- 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored The presenter presents his verdict on the day's events.
- 9.00 The Talk Famous faces debate the topics that everybody is talking about.
- 10.00 Daisy McAndrew Taking a look at the day's big stories.
- 11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored
- 12.00 Petrie Hosken Updates. 4.00 The Talk Discussion.

5.00-6.00 James Max

Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237: Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

### 6.00pm Stargate SG-1 The

Goa'uld captures the team. (Series 6, ep 8, R) 7.00 Stargate SG-1 An assassin jeopardises refugees at the Alpha site. (R)

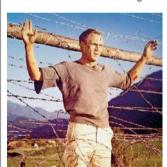
- 8.00 The Ultimate Romcom Movies Clara Amfo, Ellie Taylor and Russell Kane go head to head as they discuss the essential elements that must feature in the ideal romantic comedy. (R)
- 9.00 Never Mind The Buzzcocks With quests Roisin Conaty. ArrDee and James Bav.
- 9.45 Brassic A camping trip turns into a nightmare. (S4, ep 3)
- 10.45 Resident Alien Harry travels to New York looking for one of his people. (S2, ep 6, R)
- 11.45-12.35 NCIS: Los Angeles The team works with DEA agent Talia Del Campo. (S13, ep 19)

# SKYATLANTIC

6.00 Hotel Secrets Double bill. 7.45 Boardwalk Empire Drama. 10.00 The Sopranos Crime drama.

12.15 Ray Donovan Drama series. 2.25 Game Of Thrones Arya

- encounters the Brotherhood Without Banners. (S3, ep 2) 3.30 Boardwalk Empire The
- Capone brothers recruit Van Alden for a hit on O'Banion. (S4, ep 9) 4.40 Boardwalk Empire Sally spots evidence of heroin being smuggled in Nucky's rum shipments.
- 5.45 The Sopranos Carmela arranges a date for Furio. (S4, ep 6) 6.50 The Sopranos Paulie is released from jail.
- 7.55 Game Of Thrones Jaime strikes a deal with his captors. (Series 3, ep 3)
- 9.00 Nightingale Psychological drama, with David Oyelowo. A lonely war veteran suffers a psychological breakdown.
- 10.30 The White Lotus Belinda tries to redirect Tanva's focus to her business proposal. (5/6)
- 11.40 Irma Vep Mira must say farewell to her role, but she is unable to resist using the character's spirit for a career opportunity. (Last in series)
- 12.45 Mare Of Easttown Mare opens up about her family's history with mental health (5/7)
- 1.50 Ray Donovan Double bill 4.00-6.00 Hotel Secrets Insights.



Steve McQueen (Film4, 3.15pm)

### **SPORT**

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT **6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans 10.00 The Football Show 12.00 News 12.30 LIVE Women's One-Day Cricket: England v India. Coverage of the second ODI in the three-match series at the Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence in Canterbury **9.00** News. Roundup **12.00** Total Access **1.00-6.00** News

#### **EUROSPORT 1**

8.30am Australian Open Tennis 10.00 Hall Of Fame: Tokyo 2020 11.00 Cycling. The Road World championships 1.00 The French Open 2.30 Motocross World Championship **3.00** FIA World Endurance Championship **4.00** Triathlon PTO Tour: US Open **5.00** UK Challenge. Action from the team-building event 6.00 Triathlon: Super League 7.00 Cycling. Highlights of the Road World championships mixed team time-trial relay **8.00** Cycling. Action from the Road World championships junior men's individual time trial **9.00** Australian Open Tennis. Rafael Nadal v Daniil Medvedev in the men's singles final **10.30** Discovery Golf. The latest news **11.00** Cycling. The Road World championships 1.00 72 — A Gathering Of Champions 2.00 Cycling. The Road World championships 5.00-6.00 Triathlon PTO Tour: US Open

#### BT SPORT 1

6.00am ESPN FC 6.30 Premier League Reload **6.45** MotoGP Rewind **7.00** Ligue 1 Highlights **8.00** Joe Cole Cast 8.30 Premier League Stories 9.00 Speed Catamarans GC32 **9.30**Premiership Rugby Highlights **11.00** Rugby Tonight 11.45 MotoGP Highlights **12.45** World Rallycross Championship Highlights **1.45** Joe Cole Cast **2.15** MotoGP Rewind 2.30 LIVE Hero CPL: Barbados Royals v St Kitts & Nevis Patriots. The T20 cricket match at Providence Stadium in Providence **6.45**Premier League Reload **7.00** DIY Pundit **7.30 LIVE** Premiership Rugby Cup: Harlequins v London Irish. Coverage from Twickenham Stoop. Kickoff 7.45 10.00 Premiership Rugby Highlights **11.30 LIVE** Hero CPL: Guyana Amazon Warriors v Jamaica Tallawahs. Coverage of the T20 cricket match at Providence Stadium in Providence **3.45** DIY Pundit **4.15** Reload **4.30** MotoGP Highlights 5.30-6.00 Classic MOTD — Thrillers

#### 6.00 Liverpool Narcos 6.55 The Man Who Bought Cricket **7.50** The Vietnam War **9.00** Man On Wire. Documentary about a tightrope walk between the World Trade Center towers 11.00-12.00 Chaos In Kabul — Escaping The Taliban

#### **SKY NATURE**

6.00am Mysteries Of Evolution 7.00 Extreme Africa 8.00 Monkey Life 9.00 Malawi Wildlife Rescue **10.00** Into The Wild — India **11.00** Surviving The Amazon. Documentary 12.00 Mysteries Of The Mekong **1.00** Monkey Life **2.00** Extreme Africa **3.00** Into The Wild - India **4.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **5.00** Surviving The Amazon **6.00**Mysteries Of The Mekong **7.00** Monkey Life **8.00** The Big Dry **9.00** Macro Worlds **10.00** Surviving The Amazon **11.00-12.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong

#### **SMITHSONIAN**

6.00am Aerial America 7.00 Air Warriors 10.00 The Pacific War In Colour 12.00 America In Colour 1.00 Food Factories - How They Work 3.00 Searching For Secrets **4.00** The Pacific War In Colour **6.00** Big Cat Country **8.00** Incredible Animal Moments **9.00** Lethal Attractions. The battles of the African sayannah 10.00 Aerial Africa A bird's eve view of Botswana 11.00-12.00 Incredible Animal Moments

### **RADIO**



#### In Concert

#### Radio 3, 7.30pm

Iestyn Davies and fellow countertenor and Radio 3 New Generation Artist Hugh Cutting, pictured, perform Baroque works by Monteverdi and Handel. Mattan — Injustice Of A Hanged Man (BBC Sounds) looks at the 1952 murder of shopkeeper Lily Volpert in Cardiff and the flawed investigation and prejudiced trial that led to the hanging of an innocent man, British Somali Mahmood Mattan. Clair Woodward

#### **RADIO 4**

**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday In Parliament **9.00** More Or Less **9.30** One Dish 9.45 Book Of The Week 9.45 (LW) Daily Service 10.00 Woman's Hou 11.00 The Other Black Door (R) 11.30 Princess 12.00 News 12.01 (LW) Shipping **12.04** You And Yours **1.00**The World At One **1.45** Reflections On Majesty 2.00 The Archers (R) 2.15 Drama: Someone Dangerous, by Andy Mulligan. With Rob Jarvis and Lizzie Aaryn-Stanton (R) 3.00 Money Box Live **3.30** BBC National Short Story Award. The third story on this year's shortlist **4.00** Thinking Allowed **4.30** The Media Show **5.00** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping **6.00** News **6.30** Janey Godley — Still Got It (R) **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.00** Bringing Up Britain. Anjula Mutanda explores the problem of maths anxiety 8.45 Four Thought 9.00 Costing The Earth (R) 9.30 The Media Show (R) 10.00 The World Tonight 10.45 Book At Bedtime Stone Blind, by Natalie Haynes 11.00 The Hauntening (R) **11.15** The Skewer **11.30** Today In Parliament **12.00** News 12.30 Book Of The Week (R) 12.48 Shipping **1.00** As World Service

#### **TIMES RADIO**

5.00 Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Aasmah Mir And Stig Abell With Times Radio Breakfast 10.00 Matt Chorley 1.00 Mariella Frostrup **4.00** John Pienaar With Drive. The day's developments **7.00** Ed Vaizey. The Conservative peer and former MP sits in bringing his take on the day's news **10.00** Carole Walker. The day's main stories 1.00 Stories Of Our Times **1.30** Red Box **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge

#### RADIO 4 FXTRA

5.00 The Break 5.30 Alone 6.00 Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **6.30** The Cry Of The Owl **7.00** Jake Yapp's Media Circus **7.30** Joe Lycett's Obsessions 8.00 Hancock's Half Hour **8.30** Flying The Flag **9.00** The Write Stuff **9.30** 1835 **10.00** Cold Comfort Farm **11.00** The National Theatre With Daniel Rosenthal **12.00** Hancock's Half Hour 12.30 Flying The Flag 1.00 Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **1.30** The Cry Of The Owl **2.00** In Montparnasse **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** Tiny Tinkles 3.00 Cold Comfort Farm **4.00** The Write Stuff **4.30** 1835 **5.00** Jake Yapp's Media Circus **5.30** Joe Lycett's Obsessions 6.00 The Slide **6.30** Pioneers **7.00** Hancock's Half Hour **7.30** Flying The Flag **8.00** Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **8.30** The Cry Of The Owl **9.00** The National Theatre With Daniel Rosenthal 10.00 Joe Lycett's Obsessions 10.30 Goodness Gracious Me **11.00** The Million Pound Radio Show **11.30-12.00** Simon Evans Goes To Market

7.00 Nick Ferrari 10.00 James O'Brien 1.00 Shelagh Fogarty 4.00 Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Tonight With Andrew Marr **7.00** Iain Dale **10.00** Ian Payne 1.00 Darren Adam 4.00 Steve Allen

#### RADIO 3

6.30 Breakfast 9.00 Essential Classics 12.00 Composer Of The Week (R) 1.00 Lunchtime Concert. At the Granada festival Tabea 7immermann plays Brahms, Yulianna Avdeeva plays Bach, and Vivica Genaux and Giangiacomo Pinardi perform Venetian songs for soprano and guitar 2.00 Afternoon Concert. Including Stravinsky's Petrushka with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, and Ustvolskaya's Sports Suite by the BBC Philharmonic **4.00** Choral Evensong **5.00** In Tune **7.00** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. Live at London's Wigmore Hall, lestyn Davies is joined by fellow countertenor Hugh Cutting in the opening concert of his Wigmore residency to explore the riches of duo writing in the baroque period, featuring composers from Italy and England — Monteverdi and Handel amongst others **10.00**Free Thinking. Rana Mitter and guests discuss the current state of scholarship on the Normans **10.45** The Essay. Professor Thomas Glave returns to Birmingham on a train 11.00 Night Tracks. Presented by Sara Mohr-Pietsch **12.30** Through The Night

#### CLASSIC FM

**6.00** Tim Lihoreau **9.00** Alexander Armstrong **12.00** Lucy Coward **4.00** John Brunning **7.00** Zeb Soanes 10.00 Margherita Taylor 1.00 Bill Overton 4.00 Sam Pittis

#### RADIO 2

6.30 The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jeremy Vine 2.00 Steve Wright 5.00 Sara Cox 7.00 Jo Whiley 9.00 The Folk Show With Mark Radcliffe 10.00 Trevor Nelson 12.00 OJ Borg. Music and chat 3.00 TBA 4.00 Nicki Chapman

#### **VIRGIN RADIO**

6.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show **10.00** Eddy Temple-Morris **1.00** Tim Cocker **4.00** Gaby Roslin **7.00** Steve Denyer **10.00** Olivia Jones **1.00** Sean Goldsmith 4.00 Steve Denyer

#### **TALKSPORT**

5.00 Early Breakfast 6.00 Breakfast With Laura Woods 10.00 Jim White And Simon Jordan 1.00 Hawksbee And Jacobs 4.00 Drive 7.00 Kick Off 10.00 Sports Bar 1.00 Extra Time

9.00 Romesh Ranganathan — Irrational Live 10.00 Comedy Central: Rich Hall 10.30 Comedy Central: David O'Doherty 11.00 Minx 11.45 Ridiculousness 12.15 South Park **2.15** Ricky Gervais Show 3.15 The Daily Show 3.50-5.00 Friends

6.00am Shipwreck Secrets 8.00 Top Gear 9.00 The World At War 10.00 War Factories **11.00** Abandoned Engineering 12.00 Architecture The Railways Built 1.00 Bangers And Cash 2.00 Abandoned Engineering **4.00** War Factories **5.00** World At War **6.00** Top Gear **7.00** Abandoned Engineering 8.00 Secrets Of The London Underground **9.00**Bangers And Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering 12.00-1.00 Top Gear

#### DAVE

6.00pm Taskmaster 7.00 House Of Games 7.40 Room 101 8.20 Would I Lie To You? 9.00 QI XL 10.00 Mock The Week **10.40** Would I Lie To You? **12.00** Mock The Week **12.40** QI **1.15** QI XL **2.25** Room 101 3.25-4.00 Mock The Week

### FACTUAL

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** 6.00pm Megafactories 7.00 Air Crash Investigation 8.00 Airport Security

9.00 Narco Wars — Chasing The Dragon. An exiled mafia boss and an Afghan drug trafficker unite to create a narcotics pipeline 10.00 Trafficked 11.00 Air Crash Investigation 12.00 Car SOS 1.00-2.00 Wicked Tuna

#### DISCOVERY

**6.00pm** Bitchin' Rides **7.00** Junkyard Empire **8.00** Railroad Alaska **9.00** Deadliest Catch 10.00 Mysteries Of The Deep. Jeremy Wade looks at the Battle of Actium **11.00** Yukon Men 12.00 Mysteries Of The Deep 1.00-2.00 Deadliest Catch

5.20pm Nazi Hunters 6.20 Castles Britain's Fortified History **7.30** The Somme 1916 — From Both Sides Of The Wire 8.50 The Last Voices Of World War One. The spring of 1918 **9.50** Nazi Hunters **10.50-12.00** The Somme 1916

#### SKY DOCUMENTARIES

6.00am Urban Secrets 7.00 Discovering Dirk Bogarde 8.00 The Directors **9.00** Liverpool Narcos **9.55** The Man Who Bought Cricket **10.50** The Vietnam War **12.00** Leonard Cohen I'm Your Man 2.00 I Am Burt Reynolds 3.40 My Icon: Dan Bethell 4.00 The Directors **5.00** Discovering Dirk Bogarde

# BBC2 ITV

# CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

- **6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports. **9.15 Morning Live** Magazine. **10.00 Northern Justice** A widow
- **10.00 Northern Justice** A widow pursues a legal claim after the death of her husband.
- 10.30 For Love Or Money (R)
  11.15 Homes Under The Hammer
  Properties at auction.
- 12.15 Bargain Hunt Curios. (R)1.00 News; Weather Reports.
- **1.45 Doctors** Jimmi makes an announcement that shocks Daniel and Zara.
- **2.15 Money For Nothing** A sewing box, some sash windows and a dolls house. (R)
- **3.00 Escape To The Country**A would-be buyer seeks a property North Yorkshire.
- 3.45 Antiques Road Trip Items.4.30 The Tournament Knockout quiz, hosted by Alex Scott.
- **5.15 Pointless** Unorthodox quiz.
- 6.00 News; Weather Reports.6.30 Regional News Update.
- **7.00 The One Show** Features.
- 7.30 EastEnders Linda attends her court hearing, where she opens up to Sharon about her feelings for Mick; and the Panesars throw an opening party for Walford East; and Dotty and Bobby clash.
- 8.30 Celebrity MasterChef The remaining contenders compete in the final, challenged to cook and present a faultless three-course meal for judgement by John Torode and Gregg Wallace.
- 9.00 Crossfire Jo faces a stand-off; and Gerardo terrorises his hostages — but with the arrival of special forces, things come to an explosive climax. (Last in series)
- 10.00 News; Weather Reports.
  10.40 Question Time Fiona Bruce hosts the topical debate from Grimsby, with a panel of politicians and guests facing
- questions from the audience.

  11.40 Newscast A weekly political roundup from Westminster.
- 12.10 We Are England: The
  Barbershop. A mental-health
  course to help tackle the
  issue of male suicide. (R)
- **12.40 The Secrets She Keeps**A grief-stricken Meghan
  navigates a nightmare in
  prison. (Series 2, ep 5, R)
- **1.30-6.00 Joins BBC News**

**SCOTLAND 11.15** Bargain Hunt. **12.00** Scottish First Minister's Questions. **6.30** Reporting Scotland; Weather. **7.00** River City.

- **6.30** Money For Nothing (R) **7.15** Antiques Road Trip (R)
- 8.00 Fake Or Fortune? (Signed, R)
- 9.00 News; Weather Headlines.12.15 Politics Live Discussion.
- 1.00 Chase The Case (R)
- 1.45 Eggheads Team quiz. (R)
- 2.15 Glorious Gardens From
  Above In Gloucestershire. (R)
- 3.00 Flipping Profit Items. (R)
- 3.45 Home Is Where The Art Is (R)
  4.30 Murder, Mystery And My
  Family Reinvestigating a
  lethal shooting from 1937. (R)
- **5.15 Flog It!** Paul Martin visits the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum in Belfast. (R)
- **6.00 House Of Games** With contestants Charlie Baker, Val McDermid, Martin Offiah and Rebecca Lucy Taylor.
- **6.30 Unbeatable** Generalknowledge quiz show, hosted by Jason Manford.
- 7.00 Villages By The Sea Ben Robinson uncovers evidence of the German occupation of the Jersey village of Gorey.
- 7.30 Iolo A Wild Life Iolo
  Williams goes river dipping in
  the Severn near Newtown;
  and encounters frogs in
  a freezing stream. (3/8)
- 8.00 Saving Lives At Sea On the coast of south Wales, a Penarth crew member is called up for his first shout when a female paddleboarder is caught out by the tide.
- 9.00 All That Glitters Britain's Next Jewellery Star Katherine Ryan welcomes back four semi-finalists to the workshop in Birmingham, where they take on two penultimate challenges.
- 10.00 Live At The Apollo Loyiso
  Gola introduces fellow
  comedians Scott Bennett and
  Helen Bauer to the stage of
  the Hammersmith venue. (R)
- 10.30 Newsnight The day's events.

  11.15 Sensationalists The Bad
  Girls And Boys Of British Art
  Documentary made to
  coincide with the 25th
  anniversary of Sensation —
  the iconoclastic exhibition
  of Charles Saatchi's
- private collection. (1/3, R)

  12.15 Stolen Catching The Art
  Thieves The story of three
  paintings stolen at gunpoint
  from Stockholm's National
  Museum in 2000. (2/3, R)
- **1.15 Strictly Come Dancing**The launch show. (Signed, R)
- 3.05-3.35 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling (Signed, R)

- **6.00 Good Morning Britain 9.00 Lorraine** Lifestyle chat
- presented by Lorraine Kelly.

  10.00 This Morning Celebrity chat and lifestyle features.
- 12.30 Loose Women Debate.
- 1.30 News; Weather Reports.
  2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal David Dickinson is in Llandudno
- with his team of dealers.

  3.00 Tenable Five members of an LGBTQ+ running club take part in the quiz show.
- **4.00 Tipping Point** Gameshow, hosted by Ben Shephard.
- **5.00 The Chase** Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh.
- 6.00 Regional News Update.6.30 News: Weather Reports.
- 7.30 Emmerdale While Liam is shocked, Dan is concerned;
- and Dawn is anxious.

  8.30 Building Nightmares The True Cost? In light of the rising number of complaints about rogue traders over the course of the last year, Michelle Ackerley finds out whether or not more could be done to stop cowboy builders.
- 9.00 John & Joe Bishop Life
  After Deaf The comedian
  and actor John Bishop and
  his son, Joe, embark on a
  journey to understand more
  about the deaf community.
- 10.00 News At Ten Bulletin.
  10.45 Life After Deaf Stand Up
  Show John Bishop headlines
  a night of British Sign
  Language comedy.
- Language comedy.

  11.30 Heathrow Inside Britain's Biggest Airport Police officers are called in to deal with an emergency at one of the airport gates. (R)
- 11.55 All Elite Wrestling

   Rampage Hard-hitting
  wrestling action with many
  of AEW's biggest stars.
- 12.50 Teleshopping Goods.
- 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal (R)3.50 Unwind Daily relaxation.5.05-6.00 Tenable Quiz show. (R)



Calf woe: Ralph and Rooke (C5, 9pm)

- **6.10 Countdown** Gameshow. (R) **6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun** (R)
- 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond
  Family comedy series. (R)
- 9.00 Frasier American sitcom. (R)
  10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen
- Nightmares USA Advice. (R)

  11.25 News; Weather Reports.
- 11.30 The Great House Giveaway
  A teacher and a security
  officer renovate a drab and
  dated two-hed terrace (R)
- 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch
- 2.10 Countdown Gameshow.
  3.00 A Place In The Sun Laura
  Hamilton helps a couple
  find a holiday home in
  France's Tarn region. (R)
- 4.00 Chateau DIY At Château de la Fare, the owners build their largest guest suite.
- **5.00 Moneybags** Quiz show.
- 6.00 Hollyoaks History repeats itself when Victor forces a terrified Sid to sell drugs. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks The McQueens are furious at Goldie for giving Yazz an exclusive chat about Silas. (R)
- 7.00 News; Weather Reports.
  8.00 The Great British Bake Off
   An Extra Slice Jo Brand
  hosts the companion show
  to the baking contest,
  featuring an interview with
  the week's eliminated baker.
- 9.00 CHOICE My Grandparents'
  War Keira Knightley unearths
  a deeply moving story
  of resilience and love
  concerning her grandparents.
  (See Critics' choice)
- **10.00 Naked Attraction** Featuring a dog groomer and a self-confessed 'bad girl'.
- 11.05 Embarrassing Bodies Dr Jane meets a woman whose skin condition has left her unable to leave the house. (R)
- **12.10 First Dates Hotel** An animal lover is paired with a man who has a collection of pet tarantulas. (R)
- 1.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA The chef helps a New York restaurant stuck in the 1980s. (R)
- **1.50 Couples Come Dine With Me** Parties in Berkshire. (R)
- 2.40 Lata In Her Own Voice (R)
- 2.50 FILM: Mughal-E-Azam Stars Dilip Kumar. A 16th-century prince's love for a commoner sparks all-out war with his father and threatens to destroy the empire. Classic. (1960, PG; Urdu with subtitles; ends at 6.10)

- 6.00 Milkshake! Fun for children.
- 9.15 Jeremy Vine Debate.
- 12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun
- 1.40 News; Weather Reports.1.45 Home And Away Tane takes the fall for Nikau; and Cash structules with the knowledge
- that he killed someone.

  2.15 The Drowning Thriller, with Rene Ashton. A woman investigates the mysterious disappearance of her teenage daughter. (R)
- 4.00 Bargain Loving Brits By The Sea In Skegness, two entrepreneurs plan a brand new initiative. (R)
- 5.00 News; Weather Reports.
- **6.00 Cash In The Attic** Curios.
- 6.55 News; Weather Reports.
  7.00 Save Money On Your
  Supermarket Shop Angellica
  Bell investigates ethically
- sourced lesser-known fish. **7.55 News; Weather** Reports.
- 8.00 CHOICE Westminster Abbey
   Behind Closed Doors New
  series taking a look inside one
  of the UK's most renowned
  buildings. After losing around
  £1m pounds a month during
  the last year, cameras follow
  the recovery efforts of the
  Abbey's volunteers and staff.
  (See Critics' choice)
- 9.00 CHOICE All Creatures Great
  And Small It takes Helen,
  Mrs Hall and a case of some
  mysteriously poisoned calves
  at Kate Billings's farm to help
  James and Siegfried see that
  they are better when they
  work together. With Nicholas
  Ralph and Lynda Rooke. (\$3,
  ep 2; see Critics' choice)
- 10.00 New Lives In The Wild Ben Fogle meets a family living in a yurt on New Zealand's north island, and gets a taste of their woodland lifestyle, as well as their two daughters' alternative education. (R)
- 11.05 Police Night Shift 999 An officer responds to reports of a break-in at a garage; and police discover a trail of blood leading into a block of flats after receiving a call about a fight with a knife. (R)
- 12.05 Motorway Cops Catching Britain's Speeders (R)
- 1.00 The LeoVegas Live Casino Show Interactive gambling.
- 3.00 Entertainment News Gossip. 3.05 British Airways 24/7
- Access All Areas (R)
- 3.55 Made In Yorkshire (R)
- **4.40** Now That's Funny! (R) **5.30-6.00** Children's Shows

### **VARIATIONS**

ITV WALES 10.45 Fishlock's Choice 11.10 Life After Deaf Stand Up Show BBC1 WALES 12.10 Question Of Sport BBC2 WALES 11.15 Match Of The Day Wales 11.45 Tudur's TV Flashback. Clips from half a century and more of Welsh television S4C 6.00 Cyw: Peppa 6.05 Jen A Jim A'r Cywiadur 6.20 Y Brodyr Coala 6.30 Dwylo'r Enfys 6.45 Caru Canu A Stori 6.55 Shwshaswyn 7.05 Ein Byd Bach Ni 7.15 Nico Nog 7.25 Pablo 7.40 Ahoi! 8.00 Bing 8.10 Wibli Sochyn Y Mochyn 8.20 Y Diwrnod Mawr

8.35 Digbi Draig 8.45 Asra 9.00
Olobobs 9.05 Blero Yn Mynd I Ocido
9.20 Oli Wyn 9.30 Guto Gwningen
9.45 Cacamwnci 10.00 Peppa
10.05 Jen A Jim A'r Cywiadur 10.20
Y Brodyr Coala 10.30 Dwylo'r
Enfys 10.45 Caru Canu 10.55
Shwshaswyn 11.05 Ein Byd Bach Ni
11.15 Nico Nog 11.25 Pablo 11.40
Ahoi! 12.00 Newyddion A'r Tywydd
12.05 Sain Ffagan 12.30 Heno
1.00 Pysgod I Bawb 1.30 Sgwrs
Dan Y Lloer 2.00 Newyddion A'r
Tywydd 2.05 Prynhawn Da

3.00 Newyddion A'r Tywydd 3.05 Symud I Gymru 4.00 Awr Fawr: Peppa 4.05 Caru Canu A Stori 4.15 Ein Byd Bach Ni 4.25 Pablo 4.40 Ahoi! 5.00 Stwnsh: Cath-Od 5.10 Y Doniolis 5.20 Y Dyfnfor 5.40 Chwarter Call 5.55 Ffeil 6.00 Codi Pac 6.30 Rownd A Rownd 7.00 Newyddion A'r Tywydd 7.25 Sgorio Rhyngwladol — Cynghrair Y Cenhedloedd: Belgium v Wales. Live coverage. Kickoff at 7.45 10.00 Rygbi Pawb. Rugby union magazine 10.50-11.55 Gwesty Aduniad



Congratulations to BBCI for broadcasting the tribute to Boris on **Have I Got News For You**. It annoyed our prevailing cancel culture and was a refreshing antidote to the hagiography taking root. **Stella Tratt** 

Unfair, unbalanced and, worst of all, unfunny. Not Ian Hislop's finest hour and complete with a leftwing rabble of an audience. Thank you!

Mike Haigh

Send your comments to: telly@sunday-times.co.uk

# LISTINGS MAY BE SUBJECT TO LATE CHANGES

# **THURSDAY** 22 SEPTEMBER

### **CRITICS' CHOICE**

#### Westminster Abbey — Behind Closed Doors (C5, 8pm)

Already scheduled by Channel 5 before the Queen's death, this series reveals the scale of the preparations required when royalty are in the pews (services marking Commonwealth Day and celebrating Prince Philip are featured) and shows a conservator repairing the ancient Coronation Chair that Charles III will use. But part one is not all about the 1,000-year-old Abbey's relationship with monarchy. We see it reopening after the pandemic, with the staff's buoyant mood tempered by a grim briefing on its finances and urgent need for revenue, and meet the Dean, the clerk of works and a vivacious tourist guide - and discover what vergers actually do. John Dugdale



The biggest job of his life awaits: David Hoyle, the Dean of Westminster (C5, 8pm)

# Stepping away from the TV madness

### How To With John Wilson (BBC iPlayer)

With episode titles such as How To Appreciate Wine and How To Improve Your Memory, it might appear that New York reporter John Wilson has made a series of self-help films. Nothing could be further from the truth. Each episode is an eccentric, unpredictable journey into the curious heart of New York, Wilson travelling the city with his camera, engaging strangers in halting conversation and following them down curious paths of inquiry to alight on the surreal, the weird and the profound. Always funny, sometimes bleak and bittersweet, Wilson's idiosyncratic journeys of self-discovery feel like a breath of fresh air amidst all the big-budget television smog, a moment of quiet eccentric contemplation. Andrew Male

### My Grandparents' War (C4, 9pm)

What this series, a sort of Who Do You Think Your Granny and Grandad Were?, and its cast of top-drawer acting grandkids demonstrates so well is that the war effort demanded every fit and available body in the country. Everyone who survived it has a story to tell. Tonight, Keira Knightley can't help but see the parallels between her folks, who she claims were "not posh" and from Glasgow, and those in Ukraine. Grandfather Mac was already a navy man in 1939, but her glamorous grandmother Jan mobilised a keen administrative brain to make an "errorless" contribution to the D-Day landings. See feature, page 8. Helen Stewart

#### All Creatures Great And Small (C5, 9pm)

There is marital bliss and financial strife in the drama that turns TB testing into the stuff of chocolate-boxy TV nostalgia. James (Nicholas Ralph) clashes with Samuel West's irascible Siegfried over money matters, while a herd of sick calves provide this episode's veterinary mystery.



Not posh: Knightley (C4, 9pm)

### RuPaul's Drag Race UK (BBC3, 9pm)

"It's season four? Shut the front door!" RuPaul is joined by guest judge Joanna Lumley for this introduction to a new crop of drag queens. They must survive a Spice Girls-influenced photo-shoot and serve two runway looks — one of which celebrates the BBC's centenary.

### Emma Willis — Delivering Babies (W, 9pm)

Having qualified as a maternity care assistant, Emma Willis starts a new shift at Essex's Princess Alexandra Hospital. The *One Born Every Minute* scenes remain in all their drama and sweetness, but there is also a reminder of how Covid affected midwives. *Victoria Segal* 

### FILM CHOICE

#### Ronin (ITV4, 9pm)

This is not the best work by director John Frankenheimer (Birdman of Alcatraz, The Manchurian Candidate), but he turns a pretty duff script into something fairly exciting with the liberal application of a few thrillingly edited car chases. Robert De Niro leads an excellent cast as the head of a team of mercenaries who are trying to retrieve a mysterious package while also evading the Russian mafia. Jean Reno, Stellan Skarsgard, Natascha McElhone and Sean Bean also star. Think of it as kind of a classier, less muscular The Fast and the Furious. (1998)

#### Absolutely Fabulous — The Movie (BBC3, 10.15pm)

Hopes that this might match the chaotic joys of the 1990s sitcom are sadly unfulfilled, yet Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley are still so over the top as Eddie and Patsy that there remains fun to be had. A welcome return if not a return to form. (2016) Olly Richards



Pass the Bolly (BBC3, 10.15pm)

### ON DEMAND

#### 1972 — Munich's Black September (Sky/Now)

The murder of 11 Israeli athletes by Palestinian terrorists at the 1972 Olympic Games has been told in Kevin MacDonald's Oscar-winning 1999 documentary *One Day In September*. Why tell it again? In this film, made for the 50th

anniversary, there is a misguided attempt to flesh out the story with re-enactments, but where it succeeds is in retelling the story as one of systematic failure, of the rescuers, the reporters, the Munich police chief and the chancellor, Willy Brandt. The film also has a powerful emotional heart in its focus on Munich police officer Guido Schlosser, who still blames himself for the tragedy.

### Running With The Devil (Netflix)

Anti-virus software mogul John McAfee died in a Barcelona prison in June 2021, awaiting extradition to the US. Culled from footage made by two Vice TV reporters while the one-time billionaire was hiding from Belizean authorities on suspicion of murder, this is a chaotic, thrilling, exhausting portrait of a paranoid, drug-fuelled narcissist.

#### Liar (Acorn TV)

A psychological thriller that called into doubt a woman's accusations of rape might not be made today, or at least would be very different from this 2017 drama by Jack and Harry Williams. Beyond the excellent performances from accuser and accused Joanne Froggatt and Ioan Gruffudd, this raises questions about the notion of "the perfect victim". *Andrew Male* 

#### One Second (Mubi)

Most of Zhang Yimou's films, including *Hero* and *House of Flying Daggers*, could be considered love letters to cinema, so enraptured are they with the visual possibilities of the medium. This, however, is his deliberate love letter, about three people with different reasons for wanting a section of newsreel film. Sweet and sentimental in the right way. (2020) *OR* 

7.00pm Top Gear Motoring. 8.00 MOTDx Football discussion presented by Jermaine Jenas.

8.30 Squad Goals — Dorking 'Til I Die Dorking take on Sutton in a crucial game for the league.

9.00 CHOICE RuPaul's Drag Race UK New run. Twelve new drag queens enter the werk room for the first time. (See Critics' choice)

10.15 CHOICE Absolutely

Fabulous — The Movie Stars Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley. Patsy and Edina find themselves vilified by the entire nation and have to flee the country. (2016, 15; see Film choice)

11.40 RuPaul's Drag Race UK 12.50 MOTDx Football debate.

1.20 The Irish League Show

1.50 The Ulster Rugby Show 2.20 RuPaul's Drag Race UK

3.35-3.55 My Mate's A Bad Date

### **DRAMA**

12.00 The Bill Police drama series. 1.00 Classic FastEnders Soan

2.20 Monarch Of The Glen

3.20 A Place To Call Home

4.20 All Creatures Great And Small Rural drama series.

5.20 Waiting For God Sitcom. 6.00 Are You Being Served?

6.40 'Allo 'Allo! Classic comedy.

7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine

8.00 Judge John Deed The judge finds his principles tested by the offer of a place on the

Appellate Bench in return for hushing up a diplomatic incident, (Series 2, ep 1)

10.00 New Tricks Gerry fights to clear his name. (S12, ep.2) 11.20 Spooks Adam's treacherous

former partner asks for his help. (Series 5, ep 9) **12.40 Bad Girls** (Series 3, ep 16)

1.50 The Heart Guy (\$4, ep 5) 2.50-4.00 A Place To Call Home

### BBC4

7.00pm Great American Railroad Journeys British Columbia.

8.00 Imagine Documentary

9.10 FILM: The Producers Stars Zero Mostel. A theatre producer and his neurotic accountant hatch a scam to make the worst Broadway show of all time. (1968, PG)

10.40 FILM: Blazing Saddles Stars Cleavon Little and Gene Wilder. A crooked railway tycoon appoints a black sheriff to a racist town, but the clever lawman plots to foil his schemes. Wonderful western spoof. (1974, 12)

12.10 Clydebuilt — The Ships That **Made the Commonwealth** 

1.10 As 7pm

2.10-3.10 From Ice To Fire — The Incredible Science Of Temperature

# SKYARTS

6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock

**Presents** Toby. A man awaits the arrival of his sweetheart from 20 years previously **6.30 Alfred Hitchcock** Presents Alibi Me. A man needs an alibi for murder.

7.00 Discovering Daniel Day-Lewis A profile of the Oscar-winning actor.

8.00 Lenny Henry's Got The Blues Exploring how the blues has evolved in the UK.

9.00 The Directors The life and work of Akira Kurosawa.

10.00 Discovering Matthew McConaughey A profile of the Oscar-winning actor.

11.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents Decoy. An allegedly abusive husband is shot dead. 11.30. 12.00 Alfred Hitchcock **Presents** The Creeper. A killer is on the loose.

### ITV2

6.00pm Catchphrase Gameshow. 7.00 Secret Crush Luke risks excommunication from the ballroom scene.

8.00 Bob's Burgers Bob and Linda hide the eggs for the annual Easter hunt. (S7, ep 16) 8.30 Bob's Burgers Linda wins a weekend at the house where a television show is filmed.

9.00 Bad Chefs The group tackles a Turkish kebab with guest chef Big Has, while tensions rise and the cash prize continues to dwindle as some of the contestants fail to resist temptation.

10.00 Shopping With Keith Lemon Keith goes antique hunting in

Essex with actor Danny Dyer.

10.30 Family Guy Brian becomes an estate agent. (S13, ep 4)

11.00 Family Guy Meg parties with Peter when he takes her to a college. (S12, ep 19)

11.30-12.00 American Dad!

### ITV4

5.55pm Match Time Revisited 7.00 Who Wants To Be A

Millionaire? Quiz show 8.00 Goodwood Revival Highlights Classic cars take to Goodwood Motor Circuit.

9.00 CHOICE Ronin Stars Robert De Niro and Natascha McElhone. A team of mercenaries is hired to steal a briefcase from a gang of criminals, (1998, 15: includes FYI Daily; see Film choice)

11.25 FILM: Get Carter Stars Michael Caine. A racketeer investigate the mysterious circumstances surrounding his brother's death, Classic, (1971, 18; includes FYI Daily)

1.45 Griff's Great New Zealand Adventure The South Isle.

2.40 Unwind Daily relaxation.

3.00-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.

### ITV3

6.00 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 Classic Emmerdale Soap

8.05 That's My Boy Sitcom.

9.15 The Royal Hospital series. 11.30 Heartbeat Rural drama.

1.40 Classic Emmerdale Soap.

2.40 Classic Coronation Street 3.45 Poirot The detective

investigates when a man is found murdered on a golf course . (Series 6, ep 3)

5.55 Heartbeat Steve oversees an outdoor adventure course. 7.00 Heartbeat A man reports an unusual break-in.

8.00 Vera DCI Stanhope investigates the case of a wealthy betting shop tycoon who was murdered during a home invasion in front of his wife and daughter. (S10, ep 4)

10.00 Wycliffe A Cornish folk ritual ends in murder — and provides Wycliffe with one of the most baffling mysteries of his career, (Series 1, ep 3)

11.05 Maigret The detective returns to his home town to investigate a warning that a crime is about to be committed. (Series 1, ep 5)

12.15 The Royal Dr Weatherill and Sister Brigid take the Ormerod kids on a family trip. 1.15 The Royal A trip on a radio ship ends in a siege.

**2.20 Unwind** Daily relaxation. 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.



Corinne, Emma and Molly (W. 9pm)

### **E4**

6.05pm The Big Bang Theory Bernadette takes an interest

in physics. (Series 3, ep 10) 6.35 The Big Bang Theory Leonard's mother visits. 7.00 The Big Bang Theory Leonard and Sheldon's flat is burgled, (Series 3, ep 13) 7.30 The Big Bang Theory

Sheldon gets a job at a diner.

8.00 Below Deck —

**Mediterranean** Bobby realises he cannot shut off his feelings for Julia after a flirty night with Hannah.

9.00 Married At First Sight UK The experts set the couples exercises to improve their honesty and communication.

10.00 Dirty House Rescue

- Queens Of Clean Lola and Adam come to the aid of a 29-year-old from Birmingham.

11.05-12.05 Gogglebox Line of Duty and Jeremy Wade's Dark Waters are appraised.

# **MORE4**

5.55pm Car SOS Tim and Fuzz head to Leicester to pick up a Mk 3 Ford Cortina.

6.55 Escape To The Chateau Dick and Angel set out to renovate the orangery with the help of a roofing expert and some pre-loved slate.

7.55 Wondrous Wales Teams from Fishguard and Newport compete in a boat race.

9.00 Huge Homes Hugh Dennis visits a modern mansion with views of the sea in Devon, a reinvented Jacobean hunting lodge in Worcestershire, and a stately pile in Suffolk.

10.00 Grand Designs Australia A couple go in search of a peaceful site to build a futuristic dome-shaped house in the hills around Nimbin, New South Wales.

11.05-12.10 24 Hours In A&E

### **FILMS**

SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

**6.00am** Marry Me (2022, 12) **8.05** Sing 2 (2021, U) **10.05** After Yang. A family reckons with questions of love and loss after their AI helper breaks down. (2022, PG) **12.00** Jockey (2021, 15) 1.55 Murder At Yellowstone City. A former slave arrives at a desolate town, looking for a place to call home. (2022, 15) **4.10** Sing 2. As 8.05am. **6.10** Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon. A girl with unusual powers escapes from an asylum and rejoins civilisation. (2021, 15) **8.00** After Yang. Details as 10.05am. **9.55** Murder At Yellowstone City. Details as 1.55pm. 12.10 Stowaway (2022, 15) **1.50** Marry Me. Details as 6am. **3.50** Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon. Details as 6.10pm. 5.45-6.00 Sky Cinema Preview

### **SKY CINEMA THRILLER**

**2.00pm** Patriot Games (1992, 15) **4.00** The Saint (1997, 12) **6.00** Confessions Of A Dangerous Mind (2002, 15) **8.00** 2 Guns. Two agents become fugitives after an operation goes wrong. (2013, 15) **10.00** Serpico. A cop exposes corruption among his fellow officers. (1973, 18) **12.20-2.30** Things To Do In Denver When You're Dead (1995, 18)

#### **SKY CINEMA GREATS**

**6.50am** Invasion Of The Body Snatchers (1956, PG) **8.25** Chinatown (1974, 15) 10.40 Sunset Boulevard (1950, PG) **12.35** Close Encounters Of The Third Kind — Collector's Edition (1998, PG) **2.55** The Bridge On The River Kwai (1957, PG) 5.40 Apollo 13. The crew of a lunar mission are left stranded in space after an on-board explosion. (1995, PG) **8.00** The Godfather Part III. A mafia don is haunted by his past as he tries to legitimise his business (1990, 15) **10.55** Chinatown. Details as 8.25am. 1.20 The Ten Commandments (1956, U) **5.10-6.45** Invasion Of The Body Snatchers. Details as 6.50am.

**SKY CINEMA SELECT** 2.30pm School Of Rock (2003, PG) **4.30** The Truman Show (1998, PG) 6.20 Last Seen Alive. A man is driving his soon-to-be ex-wife to her parents' home when she mysteriously disappears during a stop at a gas station. (2022, 15) **8.00** The Matrix. A computer hacker joins with rebels to free humans from a virtual-reality fantasy. (1999, 15) 10.20 Blade (1998 18) **12.30** Fifty Shades Of Grey (2015, 18) **2.50** Last Seen Alive. Details as 6.20pm. 4.30-6.00 Extinct (2021, PG)

#### FILM4

11.00am Esther Waters (1948, PG) 1.15 Santa Fe Passage (1955, U) **3.05** The Red Pony (1949, U) **4.50** Carry On Spying (1964, U) 6.35 Indiana Jones And The Kingdom Of The Crystal Skull The globe-trotting archaeologist races against Soviet agents to find an artefact of untold power. (2008, 12) 9.00 Ad Astra. An astronaut goes on a mission to Neptune to uncover the truth about his missing father. (2019, 12) 11.20 No Escape. An American family relocates to an Asian nation where a revolution takes hold. (2015, 15) 1.25-4.00 The Beast (2019, 18)

TALKING PICTURES TV 3.25pm Wherever She Goes. Biopic of the pianist Eileen Joyce, charting her struggles to master her art as a child while living in poverty. (1951, U) **5.05**Dalekmania **6.20** Daleks' Invasion Earth 2150 AD. Time-traveller the Doctor struggles to thwart the Daleks' scheme to remove the Earth's core. (1966, U) 8.00 The Saint. A woman is murdered after claiming to have seen her missing husband. **9.00** Justice. A sleazy defence lawyer arranges fake witnesses to testify on his guilty clients' behalf. **10.00** The Rivals Of Sherlock Holmes 11.00-12.00 Widows

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

GOLD

**7.00am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.40** Outnumbered **8.15** 2point4 Children 8.55 Hi-De-Hi! 9.30 Still Open All Hours **10.10** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.30** Desmond's **12.00** 2point4 Children 12.40 Dad's Army 1.20 Outnumbered **2.00** Keeping Up Appearances **2.40** Last Of The Summer Wine **4.00** Dad's Army 4.40 Still Open All Hours 5.20 Keeping Up Appearances 6.00 Hi-De-Hi! 6.40 Dad's Army 8.00 Porridge 9.20 The Office 10.00 Live At The Apollo 11.00 The Cockfields 11.40 Peep Show **12.50** Porridge **2.20** The Office **2.50** 2point4 Children **3.20-4.00** Desmond's

SKY COMEDY

**6.00pm** Futurama **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **8.45** Sex And The City 10.00 Bloods 10.30 Intelligence 11.30 Sex And The City 12.40 The Late Late Show 1.35 The Tonight Show 2.30 Entourage 4.00-5.00 Everybody Hates Chris

#### **SKY WITNESS**

6.00pm Nothing To Declare 8.00 Blue Bloods. Danny and Baez are caught in the middle of office politics. 9.00 FBI 10.00 FBI — International

11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **12.00** The Equalizer **1.00** FBI — Most Wanted **2.00** FBI **3.00** The Force — Manchester 4.00 Road Wars 5.00-6.00 Brit Cops — Law & Disorder

6.00pm Property Brothers - Forever Homes **7.00** Masterchef Australia **8.00** Jo Frost — Nanny On Tour **9.00 CHOICE** Emma Willis — Delivering Babies. New run. Emma has a refresher on the jobs she will carry out alone. (See Critics' choice) **10.00** Nurses On The Ward **11.00** Inside The Ambulance Coast And Country 12.00 999 Rescue Squad **1.00-3.00** Tipping Point

6.00pm Home And Away 7.00 Bargain Brits On Benefits 8.00 Dirty Home Rescue **9.00** Killer At The Crime Scene **10.00** HMP Styal — Women Behind Bars **11.15** A&E — When Patients Attack 12.15 Bargain Brits On Benefits 1.15 Shoplifters & Scammers — At War With The Law **2.15** Judge Judy 3.55-4.00 Entertainment News

6.00pm NCIS 9.00 Criminal Minds 10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit 12.50 Private Eyes 3.35-4.00 Criminals — Caught On Camera

- 6.00 James Max The top stories 6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show Roundup.
- 10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham Insights.
- 1.00 Ian Collins Monologues, debates and viewers' calls.
- 4.00 Vanessa Feltz Tackling the big stories of the day.
- 7.00 The News Desk The presenter Tom Newton Dunn tackles the biggest stories of the day.
- 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored The host presents his verdict on the day's global events with an hour of debate.
- 9.00 The Talk Discussion
- 10.00 The James Whale Show 11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored
- 12.00 The James Whale Show
- 1.00 Darryl Morris Roundup.
- 4.00 The Talk Discussion.

5.00-6.00 James Max Updates. Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237: Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

- 6.00pm Stargate SG-1 An alien world offers the Earth a miracle drug. (Series 6, ep 10, R) 7.00 Stargate SG-1 A reporter threatens to expose a secret military project. (R)
- 8.00 An Idiot Abroad Karl Pilkington travels along America's Route 66. (R)
- 9.00 A League Of Their Own With guests Patrice Evra, Jimmy Carr, Richard Ayoade and Angela Scanlon.
- 10.00 Cricket's Funniest Moments A selection of comical clips from the sport. (R)
- 10.30 The Russell Howard Hour Topical comedy show in which the host picks through the biggest stories.
- 11.15-12.15 Cobra Cyberwar A breach at the port of Dover means an insidious threat may be in play. (S2, ep 3, R)

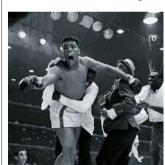
# SKYATLANTIC

6.00 Hotel Secrets Insights. 7.45 Boardwalk Empire Drama.

10.00 The Sopranos Crime drama.

12.15 Ray Donovan Drama series. 2.25 Game Of Thrones (S3, ep 3)

- 3.30 Boardwalk Empire Chalky takes Daughter to the home of his mentor. (Series 4, ep 11) 4.40 Boardwalk Empire Nucky sets out to kill Eli.
- 5.45 The Sopranos Furio visits his father in Italy. (Series 4, ep 8) 6.50 The Sopranos Junior falls down a flight of stairs.
- 7.55 Game Of Thrones Daenerys takes charge of her army of the Unsullied. (S3, ep 4)
- 9.00 I Hate Suzie Cob decides it is his turn to let loose. (5/8)
- **9.45 The Staircase** It is 2004. and in the aftermath of the verdict. Michael and his family struggle with the court's decision. (5/8)
- 11.00 House Of The Dragon Game of Thrones prequel, with Paddy Considine, (5/10)
- 12.10 Gangs Of London Darren wrestles with the chaos he has unleashed (5/9)
- 1.15 Succession Kendall plots a vote of no confidence against Logan, (Series 1, ep 5)
- 2.25 Munich Games Drama (4/6; German, Hebrew and Arabic with subtitles)
- 3.30 In Treatment (S2, ep 27) 4.00-6.00 Hotel Secrets Insights.



The greatest: Ali (PBS, 7.05pm)

### **SPORT**

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT **6.00am** News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **10.00** The Football Show **12.00** News **12.30** LIVE DP World Tour Golf. Day one of the Open de France 3.00 LIVE T20 Cricket: Pakistan v England. The second Twenty20 in the seven-match series **7.30 LIVE** PGA Tour Golf. The opening day's play of the Presidents Cup 11.00 News 12.30 LIVE NFL: Cleveland Browns v Pittsburgh Steelers. Kickoff at 1.15 4.30-6.00 News

**EUROSPORT 1** 

6.00am British Speedway 7.00 Speedway Grand Prix 8.00 Discovery Golf **8.30** Australian Open Tennis **10.00** Hall Of Fame: Tokyo 2020 11.00 Cycling. The Road World championships **1.00** The French Open **2.30** Motocross World Championship 3.00 FIA World Endurance Championship 4.00 Mountain Bike Enduro World Series Show **4.30** Wrestling: World Championships **5.00** 72 — A Gathering Of Champions **7.00** Cycling. The Road World championships **9.00** Australian Open Tennis **10.30** The French Open **10.45** Mountain Bike Enduro World Series Show **11.15** LIVE Cycling. The Road World championships junior men's road race 2.00 LIVE Cycling. The Road World championships junior men's road race **3.00** Cycling. The Road World championships 4.00-8.30 LIVE Cycling. The Road World championships under-23 men's road race in Wollongong, Australia

#### BT SPORT 1

6.00am ESPN FC 6.30 Serie A - Full Impact **7.00** Premier League Reload **7.15** WWE NXT **9.00** DIY Pundit **9.30** Fishing — On The Bank **10.30** Reload **10.45** ESPN FC **11.15** The Aussie Rules Show 11.45 LIVE AFLW: West Coast Eagles v Fremantle Women. Bounce-up at 12.00 1.45 Reload 2.00 DIY Pundit 2.30 LIVE Hero CPL: St Kitts & Nevis Patriots v Trinbago Knight Riders 6.45 Films **8.15** Serie A — Full Impact **8.45** Premier League Reload **9.00** WWE NXT Highlights **10.00** Premier League Stories **10.30** ESPN FC Presents — Gab & Juls 11.00 Uefa Champions League Magazine 11.30 LIVE Hero CPL: Guyana Amazon Warriors v Saint ucia Kings **3.45** Cricket Reload **4.00** Badminton Unlimited **4.30** Classic MOTD — Thrillers **5.30-6.00** ESPN FC Presents — Gab & Juls

### 3.40 My Icon: Christine Ohuruogu 4.00 The Directors **5.00** Discovering Charles Laughton **6.00** Liverpool Narcos 6.55 The Man Who Bought Cricket **7.50** The Vietnam War **9.00** Gaming Wall St **11.30-12.30** The Directors

#### SKY NATURE

6.00am Wild Dogs — Running With The Pack 7.00 Extreme Africa 8.00 Monkey Life **9.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **10.00** Into The Wild — India **11.00** Surviving The Amazon **12.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong **1.00** Monkey Life **2.00** Extreme Africa **3.00** Into The Wild -India **4.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **5.00** Surviving The Amazon **6.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong **7.00** Monkey Life **8.00** Shark Squad **9.00** Valley Of Flood And Fire **10.00** Surviving The Amazon **11.00-12.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong

### **SMITHSONIAN**

6.00am Aerial America 7.00 Air Warriors 10.00 Incredible Animal Moments **11.00** Lethal Attractions **12.00** Aerial Africa **1.00** The Pacific War In Colour **3.00** America In Colour **4.00** Incredible Animal Moments **5.00** Lethal Attractions **6.00** The Real Mad Men Of Advertising 8.00 Inside The Factory. The production of sauces **9.00** How Did They Build That? **10.00** Ice Airport Alaska 11.00-12.00 Inside The Factory



**RADIO** 

### **Gemma Arrowsmith's Sketched Out**

Radio 4, 6.30pm New sketch show with guest hosts, this week it's Paterson Joseph. In Free Thinking (Radio 3, 10pm), Matthew Sweet and guests at the Birmingham Hippodrome for the Contains Strong Language festival explore the idea of "the Black Country". It's **Your Hormones!** (podcast) sees Dr Sohère Roked discuss the importance of hormones in the health of everyone,

regardless of gender.

Clair Woodward

**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today 8.31 (LW) Yesterday In Parliament 9.00 In Our Time 9.45 Book Of The Week 9.45 (LW) Daily Service 10.00 Woman's Hour 11.00 Crossing Continents. Israel's ultra-Orthodox Jews' struggle to come to terms with child sex abuse scandals. Last in series **11.30** Unplayable — Disability And The Gaming Revolution (R) 12.00 News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** You And Yours **12.30** All Consuming **1.00** The World At One 1.45 TBA 2.00 The Archers (R) **2.15** Drama: I've Been So Touched, by Leila Navabi **3.00** Ramblings 3.27 Appeal (R) 3.30 BBC National Short Story Award **4.00** The Curious Cases Of Rutherford & Fry (R) **4.30** Inside Science **5.00** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping **6.00** News **6.30** Gemma Arrowsmith's Sketched Out. New series of comic observations 7.00 The Archers 7.15 Front Row 8.00 The Briefing Room 8.30 The Digital Human (R) 9.00 Inside Science (R) 9.30 In Our Time (R) **10.00** The World Tonight 10.45 Book At Bedtime 11.00 Your Place Or Mine **11.30** Today In Parliament 12.00 News 12.30 Book Of The Week (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** World Service

#### **TIMES RADIO**

5.00 Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Aasmah Mir And Stig Abell With Times Radio Breakfast 10.00 Matt Chorley 1.00 Mariella Frostrup. Cultural guests and big thinkers 4.00 John Pienaar With Drive. Conversation with political economic guests **7.00** Ed Vaizey. The former MP gives his take on the day's news 10.00 Kait Borsay 1.00 Stories Of Our Times **1.30** Red Box **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge

#### RADIO 4 FXTRA

5.00 Jake Yapp's Media Circus 5.30 Joe Lycett's Obsessions **6.00** Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery 6.30 The Cry Of The Owl 7.00 To Hull And Back 7.30 Michael Spicer — Before Next Door **8.00** The Small, Intricate Life Of Gerald C Potter **8.30** No Commitments **9.00** The Unbelievable Truth 9.30 Trevor's World Of Sport 10.00 Cold Comfort Farm 11.00 Desert Island Discs 11.45 David Attenborough's Life Stories **12.00** The Small, Intricate Life Of Gerald C Potter **12.30** No Commitments **1.00** Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery 1.30 The Cry Of The Owl **2.00** In Montparnasse **2.15** Eleanor Rising **2.30** The Last Post **3.00** Cold Comfort Farm **4.00** The Unbelievable Truth 4.30 Trevor's World Of Sport **5.00** To Hull And Back **5.30** Michael Spicer — Before Next Door **6.00** The Slide **6.30** Great Lives **7.00** The Small, Intricate Life Of Gerald C Potter **7.30** No Commitments 8.00 Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery 8.30 The Cry Of The Owl **9.00** Desert Island Discs **9.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **10.00** Michael Spicer — Before Next Door 10.30 Craig Brown's Lost Diaries 11.00 The Hauntening 11.15 Little Lifetimes 11.30-12.00 Weak At The Top

7.00 Nick Ferrari 10.00 James O'Brien 1.00 Shelagh Fogarty 4.00 Tom Swarbrick **6.00** Tonight With Andrew Marr 7.00 Jain Dale 10.00 Jan Payne 1.00 Darren Adam 4.00 Steve Allen

#### RADIO 3

6.30 Breakfast 9.00 Essential Classics 12.00 Composer Of The Week (R) 1.00 Lunchtime Concert. At the Granada festival, Tabea Zimmermann plays de Falla, Yulianna Avdeeva plays Bach, and Vivica Genaux and Giangiacomo Pinardi perform songs by Goethe **2.00**Afternoon Concert. The Bavarian Radio SO in Copland's Symphony 3 and Beethoven's Violin Concerto **5.00** In Tune 7.00 In Tune Mixtape 7.30 In Concert. Live at City Halls, Glasgow, Ryan Wigglesworth conducts the BBC SSO and BBC Singers in Ravel's Daphnis Et Chloé **10.00** Free Thinking. A discussion on the Black Country **10.45** The Essay. Naush Sabah re-visits he childhood home in Birmingham 11.00 The Night Tracks Mix 11.30 Unclassified **12.30** Through The Night

#### CLASSIC FM

6.00 Tim Lihoreau 9.00 Alexander Armstrong 12.00 Lucy Coward 4.00 John Brunning 7.00 Zeb Soanes **10.00** Margherita Taylor **1.00** Bill Overton **4.00** Sam Pittis

#### PADIO 2

6.30 The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00** Steve Wright **5.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Jo Whiley 9.00 The Country Show **10.00** Trevor Nelson **12.00** OJ Borg **3.00** Sounds Of The 90s With Fearne Cotton (R) 4.00 A Dance Through The Decades 4.30 Katie Piper

#### VIRGIN RADIO

6.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show 10.00 Eddy Temple-Morris 1.00 Tim Cocker 4.00 Gaby Roslin 7.00 Steve Denyer 10.00 Olivia Jones 1.00 Sean Goldsmith **4.00** Steve Denyer

#### TALKSPORT

5.00 Early Breakfast 6.00 Breakfast With Alan Brazil 10.00 Jim White And Simon Jordan 1.00 Hawksbee & Baker 4.00 Drive 7.00 Kick Off: Belgium v Wales. Kickoff is at 7.45 10.00 Sports Bar 1.00 Extra Time

#### COMEDY CENTRAL

8.00am Most Ridiculous: On The Job 8.35 Most Ridiculous: Show-Offs 9.00 Takeshi's Castle **10.00** Your Face Or Mine **11.00** Friends **9.00** Michael McIntyre's Big Show 10.00 Kevin Bridges — The Brand New Tour **11.00** The Ren & Stimpy Show **1.00** South Park 2.00 The Ricky Gervais Show 3.00 Bob's Burgers 3.20 The Daily Show 3.55-5.00 Friends

### YESTERDAY

**6.00am** Forbidden History **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** The World At War **10.00** War Factories **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00** The Architecture The Railways Built **1.00** Bangers And Cash **2.00** Abandoned Engineering **4.00** War Factories **5.00** The World At War **6.00** Top Gear **7.00** Abandoned Engineering **8.00** Bangers And Cash **9.00** Secrets Of The London Underground 10.00 Bangers And Cash 11.00 Abandoned Engineering **12.00-1.00** Top Gear

**6.00pm** Taskmaster **7.00** House Of Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie To You? The Unseen Bits **9.00** QI XL 10.00 Late Night Mash. Rachel Parris hosts **11.00** Question Team **12.00** Mock The Week **12.40** QI **1.15** QI XL **2.25** Room 101 3.25-4.00 Mock The Week

### **FACTUAL**

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 6.00pm World War II — Secrets From Above **7.00** Air Crash Investigation 8.00 Drain Alcatraz 9.00 Wicked Tuna. 10.00 To Catch A Smuggle 11.00 Air Crash Investigation 12.00 Car SOS 1.00-2.00 Wicked Tuna

### DISCOVERY

6.00pm Bitchin' Rides 7.00 Junkvard Empire 8.00 Railroad Alaska 9.00 Naked And Afraid XL 10.00 Naked And Afraid — Alone 11.00 Yukon Men **12.00** Mysteries Of The Deep 1.00-2.00 Naked And Afraid XL

#### PBS AMERICA

5.50pm Castles — Britain's Fortified History 7.05 Muhammad Ali. Ken Burns documentary about the sporting legend and activist 9.45 Nazi Hunters 10.45-12.00 No Roses On A Sailor's Grave

#### **SKY DOCUMENTARIES**

**6.00am** Fish Town **7.00** Discovering Charles Laughton **8.00** The Directors 9.00 Liverpool Narcos 9.55 The Man Who Bought Cricket. The story of Allen Stanford 10.50 The Vietnam War 12.00 You Cannot Kill David Arquette 2.00 Richard Pryor — Omit The Logic

#### **CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5**

- 6.00 Regional News Headlines. 9.15 Morning Live Magazine. 10.00 Northern Justice An elderly
  - client pursues a case against a police officer
- 10.30 For Love Or Money (R) 11.15 Homes Under The Hammer Properties at auction. (R)
- 12.15 Bargain Hunt Curios.
- 1.00 News: Weather Reports. 1.45 Doctors Bear discovers a shocking secret.
- 2.15 Money For Nothing Items. 3.00 Escape To The Country (R)
- 3.45 Antiques Road Trip Items.
- 4.30 The Tournament Quiz.
- **5.15 Pointless** Unorthodox guiz.
- 6.00 News; Weather Reports.
- 6.30 Regional News Update. 7.00 CHOICE Strictly Come
  - Dancing New series. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host the launch of the 20th series, joined by Shirley Ballas, Anton Du Beke, Craig Revel Horwood and Motsi Mabuse as they welcome 15 new celebrities to the Strictly
- ballroom. (See Critics' choice) 8.50 CHOICE Ghosts New run of the supernatural comedy, with Charlotte Ritchie and Kiell Smith-Bynoe, Alison and Mike open their posh B&B. (S4 en 1 see Critics' choice)
- 9.20 Have I Got News For You Richard Ayoade guest hosts the satirical quiz, with rail union leader Mick Lynch and the actress and comedian Roisin Conaty joining regulars Ian Hislop and Paul Merton.
- 9.50 CHOICE Am I Being Unreasonable? With Daisy May Cooper. Nic is paranoid about what she said to Jen during their boozy night; and the cat is found and returned, but Ollie seems unconcerned. (2/6: see Critics' choice)
- 10.20 News; Weather Reports. 11.00 RuPaul's Drag Race UK The drag star welcomes 12 new drag queens to the werk room for the first time. (R)
- 11.50 FILM: Detroit Stars John Boyega and Anthony Mackie. A group of rogue, racist cops respond to a complaint with retribution rather than justice in mind. Brutal fact-based drama. (2017, 15)
- **2.10-6.00 Joins BBC News**

SCOTLAND 11.15 Homes Under The Hammer. 6.30 Reporting Scotland. 11.10 RuPaul's Drag Race UK. 12.20 FILM: Detroit. 2.40 BBC News.

- **6.30 Escape To The Country (R)** 7.15 Antiques Road Trip (R)
- 8.00 The Repair Shop (Signed, R)
- 9.00 News; Weather Headlines. 12.15 Politics Live Discussion.
- 1.00 Chase The Case Game. (R) 1.45 Eggheads Team quiz. (R)
- 2.15 FILM: The Red Shoes Stars Moira Shearer, A ballerina's love for a composer arouses the wrath of her possessive mentor. Exuberant. (1948, U)
- 4.25 Beechgrove Repotted (R) 4.30 Murder, Mystery And My Family The case of 'The Man They Could Not Hang'. (R)
- **5.15 Flog It!** Interesting finds. (R) 6.00 House Of Games Charlie Baker, Val McDermid, Martin Offiah and Rebecca Lucy Taylor compete in the quiz.
- 6.30 Unbeatable Quiz show. 7.00 Villages By The Sea Ben Robinson visits the village of Flamborough, Yorkshire. (R)
- 7.30 Beechgrove Carole Baxter and Brian Cunningham re-visit the area between the alpine and heather borders that was the site of a lot of work from them both earlier in the year.
- 8.00 Gardeners' World Monty Don plants garlic, shows how to divide crocosmia and sows ornamental grass seeds: and Adam Frost visits Lowther Castle in the Lake District.
- 9.00 Mortimer & Whitehouse - Gone Fishing Paul and Bob venture from London Euston to the Scottish Highlands, taking a sleeper train overnight to their destination.
- 9.30 CHOICE Martin Compston's Scottish Fling The actor and pal Phil MacHugh travel Scotland's east coast, from St Andrews to Aberdeen, and reveal the surprising side of some well-known places.
- (See Critics' choice) 10.00 Mock The Week Quiz, with Angela Barnes, Alasdair Beckett-King, Rhys James, Ria Lina and Josh Pugh.
- 10.30 Newsnight The day's events. 11.05 MOTDx Discussion. (R)
- 11.35 The Misadventures Of Romesh Ranganathan The comedian visits Zimbabwe in the aftermath of Robert Mugabe's rule. (R)
- 12.35 Panorama (Signed, R) 1.05 The Boys From Brazil — Rise Of The Bolsonaros (Signed, R)
- -3.05 Simon Reeve's South America Including Venezuela and Suriname. (Signed, R)

- 6.00 Good Morning Britain
- 9.00 Lorraine Lifestyle chat.
- 10.00 This Morning Features.
- 12.30 Loose Women Debate. 1.30 News; Weather Reports.
- 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal David Dickinson is in Weston-super-Mare where items include a pistol and a watch.
- 3.00 Tenable Warwick Davis hosts as a family team of five from
- Southport take part. 4.00 Tipping Point Gameshow,
- hosted by Ben Shephard. 5.00 The Chase Quiz show,
- hosted by Bradley Walsh. 6.00 Regional News Update.
- 6.30 News; Weather Reports.
- 7.30 Emmerdale Chas is guilty, and there is tension between her and Cain: and Dawn lets Harriet help her out.
- 8.00 Coronation Street A frantic dash to save Kelly from danger culminates in a devastating shooting; and Stephen's heart sinks when Gabrielle visits the Platts.
- 9.00 Professor T A prominent barrister and his second wife are found shot to death in a crime that has uncanny parallels to a double murder that he prosecuted 15 years ago. (Series 2, ep 2)
- 10.00 News At Ten Bulletin. 10.45 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? Jeremy Clarkson gives six new contestants the chance to win a fortune. (R)
- 11.40 The NFL Show Laura Woods is joined by Jason Bell and Osi Umenyiora to present highlights of the opening match of week three between Cleveland Browns v Pittsburgh Steelers.
- 12.35 Teleshopping Goods. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal In Weston-super-Mare. (R)
- 3.50 Unwind Daily relaxation. 5.10-6.00 Griff's Great New Zealand Adventure Griff Rhys

Jones visits Cape Reinga. (R)



Catty: Cooper (BBC1, 9.50pm)

- 6.10 Countdown Gameshow. (R)
- 6.50 3rd Rock From The Sun (R) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond Family comedy series. (R)
- 9.00 Frasier American sitcom. (R)
- 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA The chef is in Nashville, Tennessee. (R)
- 11.25 News: Weather Reports. 11.30 The Great House Giveaway Two strangers transform a decrepit property in Aldridge.

Walsall, and embark on some

- structural changes. (R) 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch 2.10 Countdown Noreen Khan is in Dictionary Corner.
- 3.00 A Place In The Sun A couple from Watford require a holiday home in the Portuguese town of Albufeira. (R)
- 4.00 Chateau DIY At Château Larribau, owners renovate one room as a bolthole.
- **5.00 Moneybags** Host Kevin Duala stands in for Craig Charles.
- 6.00 News; Weather Reports. 7.00 International Football: Italy v England, Jules Breach presents live coverage from the Uefa Nations League Group A3 encounter, which comes from the San Siro in Milan. Kickoff at 7.45.
- 10.00 Gogglebox The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week, with cameras capturing their instant reactions
- 11.05 The Last Leg Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined by guests David Harewood and Judi Love for an offbeat review of significant moments from the past seven days.
- 12.10 International Football
  - Action from the Uefa Nations League Group A3 encounter between Italy and England at the San Siro in Milan.
- 1.05 Travel Man Joe Lycett and Mo Gilligan tour Cyprus, where they try their hand at making halloumi, visit the salt and pepper museum and the ancient city of Larnaca. (R)
- 1.35 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA An Italian restaurant in Connecticut. (R)
- 2.20 Couples Come Dine With Me Parties in Blackburn. (R) 3.15 Sunday Brunch Best Bits (R)
- 3.20 Car SOS A Toyota Celica. (R) 4.15 Find It, Fix It, Flog It (R)
- 4.25 Autumn At Jimmy's Farm (R) 5.15-6.10 The Great Home
  - Transformation Property. (R)

- 6.00 Milkshake! Fun for children.
- 9.15 Jeremy Vine Debate.
- 12.45 Holiday Homes In The Sun Amanda Lamb, JB Gill and Sam Pinkham are in Sorrento.
- 1.40 News; Weather Reports.
- 1.45 Home And Away Justin's financial plan causes both joy and chaos; and Cash calls out for Rose.
- 2.15 Deadly Divorce Party Thriller, with Glenda Braganza. A woman falls for a man who seemingly meets every demand she has for a partner, leading her to ignore
- warnings about him. 4.00 Bargain Loving Brits By The Sea A Scarborough gift-shop owner plans to sell his own brand of water. (R)
- 5.00 News; Weather Reports.
- 6.00 Cash In The Attic Jules Hudson and appraiser Paul Hayes are in Leicestershire. (Last in series)
- 6.55 News; Weather Reports.
- 7.00 Grand Day Out The comedian Susan Calman visits Shakespeare Country, and stops off at Warwick Castle where she is invited to try the art of archery. (R)
- 7.55 News; Weather Reports.
- 8.00 CHOICE The Cotswolds & Beyond Pam Ayres's journey begins just south of the Cotswolds at Longleat House, the country estate in Wiltshire famous for its safari park. (See Critics' choice)
- 9.00 Julia Roberts A Hollywood Fairytale A look back at the actress's finest moments, with contributions from co-stars, crew, writers, producers, film critics and celebrity superfans.

### 10.25 CHOICE Sleeping With The **Enemy** Stars Julia Roberts

- and Patrick Bergin. An abused wife fakes her own death to escape her violent husband and start a new life – but he is soon on her trail. (1991, 15; see Film choice)
- 12.30 Celine Dion Secrets Of Her Biggest Hits The stories behind three of the singles that made the singer a global superstar. (R)
- 1.20 LeoVegas Live Casino Show 3.20 British Airways 24/7
- Access All Areas (R)
- 4.05 Made In Yorkshire (R)
- 4.50 Now That's Funny! (R)
- 5.25 Entertainment News Gossip.
- 5.40-6.00 Children's Shows

### **VARIATIONS**

ITV WALES 7.00 Welsh Lives. Cameras focus on members of Wales' thriving drag community BBC1 WALES 11.00 Wales — Music Nation With Huw Stephens. The presenter meets the Treorchy male voice choir **11.40** RuPaul's Drag Race UK. Twelve drag queens enter the werk room for the first time **12.55** Ladhood 1.20 The Hit List. A Strictly special of the music quiz 2.05 News **\$4C 6.00** Cyw **12.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd 12.05 Trysorau Cymru — Tir, Tai A Chyfrinachau 12.30 Heno Aur

1.00 Rali Ceredigion. Action from the Ceredigion Rally starting in Aberystwyth 2.00 Newyddion A'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **3.05** Rali Ceredigion. Action from the Ceredigion Rally **4.00** Awr Fawr: Blociau Rhif 4.05 Odo 4.15 Sbarc 4.30 Stiw 4.45 Deian A Loli 5.00 Stwnsh: Ar Goll Yn Oz **5.25** Gwboi A Twm Twm 5.40 Rygbi Pawb 5.55 Ffeil 6.00 Trefi Gwyllt Iolo. Iolo Williams presents footage of urban foxes, badgers and otters

6.30 Garddio A Mwy. Iwan Edwards in his 'hot house'; and Sioned Edwards creates something special with old stained-glass windows 6.57 Newyddion S4C **7.00** Heno **7.30** Newyddion A'r Tywydd **7.55** Sgorio: The New Saints v Dundee. Live coverage of the Scottish Challenge Cup fixture at Park Hall Stadium. Kickoff at 8.00 10.05 Sgwrs Dan Y Lloer. Elin Fflur chats to the cage fighter Brett Johns 10.35-11.40 Oci Oci Oci. Darts quiz, hosted by Eleri Sion and Ifan Jones Evans



Oh dear, after many great years, Gardeners' World (BBC2) has become a shambolic mix of Monty Don, shaky viewers' videos and short films, often a year old. **Geoff Carr** 

You Say is much less entertaining since it was moved to a different page. It can't be cause and effect, so what else is going on?

John Parke

Send your comments to: telly@sunday-times.co.uk

# LISTINGS MAY BE SUBJECT TO LATE CHANGES

# FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

### **CRITICS' CHOICE**

#### Ghosts (BBC1, 8.50pm)

When this series began in 2019, it looked as if it might be a more grown-up version of the 1976-84 comedy series Rentaghost. Quickly, though, it became clear that the Horrible Histories team had created a thing of real joy, not only funny but also capable of unusual emotional depth, turning its most cartoon-like characters – a caveman, a romantic poet, a trouserless politician – into flesh-and-blood entities. As season four begins, living humans Mike and Alison (Kiell Smith-Bynoe and Charlotte Ritchie) welcome the first customers to their haunted guest house: fans will also rejoice in the return of the ineffably sweet cellardwelling plague victims, who tonight stray upstairs. That's the spirits. Victoria Segal



Spirited along: does Mike and Alison's business have a ghost of a chance? (BBC1, 8.50pm)

### Pop turns to film

As Harry Styles takes his first lead role, in this week's Don't Worry Darling, select from some of the best examples of pop stars turned movie stars. Maybe the best of the bunch is Cher's Oscar-winning role in comedy-drama Moonstruck (MGM). Lady Gaga in A Star **Is Born** (Rent as stream or download) and Whitney Houston in The Bodyguard (Rent as stream or download) both do a good take on the tortured superstar. David Bowie is perfectly cast as a goblin king in **Labyrinth** (Netflix) and an alien in The Man Who Fell To Earth (StudioCanal Presents), In small but affecting roles, Meatloaf is moving as a cancer patient in Fight Club (Disnev+) and Mariah Carev is dialled down in Precious (Amazon Prime). And though she's often slammed, Madonna is genuinely excellent as Eva Peron in **Evita** (Disney+). Olly Richards

### Am I Being Unreasonable? (BBC1, 9.50pm)

Like a rural version of Motherland, Daisy May Cooper and Selin Hizli's new sitcom offers plenty of tips on what to avoid as a modern mum. Don't get drunk on the eve of your son's birthday party, for example, as you'll spend much of it in the loo and regretting things you said. Try to avoid seething about other people giving him better presents; and don't assume he will be worried if the cat disappears. Meanwhile in this second part, flashback scenes take us back to before it all started to unravel for Cooper's Nic – to her wedding and her subsequent fling with the best man (with apparent echoes of Brief Encounter). John Dugdale

# Strictly Come Dancing (BBC1, 7pm)

It is perhaps a blessing the nowtraditional signifier of the start of the winter was held over for a week. Who better to coax our isles out of mourning than Tess and Claudia and their spray-tan competitors? The first live show is tomorrow. Hard work, pluck and daring will see someone lift the glitterball in December.



You dancing? (BBC1, 7pm)

# The Cotswolds & Beyond (C5, 8pm)

Bonne vivante Pam Ayres, 75, heads "just beyond the Cotswolds" to visit Longleat for cake with Lady Bath and a poem about a koala ("There's one thing for sure, these are creatures we adore). Then to a horse sanctuary to see one of the Windsor Greys that pulled Queen Elizabeth's carriage.

# Martin Compston's Scottish Fling (BBC2, 9.30pm)

Over to the east coast, where Compston, whose childhood home is less than three hours away, sucks air over his teeth and says: "Not my natural habitat." Testament to how small Scotland is. Then it's land yachting in St Andrews, gamers in Dundee and rap in Aberdeen. Helen Stewart

### FILM CHOICE

### Shirley Valentine (Sky Cinema Drama, 9.20am)

Pauline Collins recreated her Olivier-winning stage role for this movie adaptation of Willy Russell's comedy, playing a Liverpool housewife who gets so fed up with her everyday drudge that she walks out on her husband (Bernard Hill) and goes on holiday to Greece. It's a timeless comic performance, every line underplayed and the fourth wall broken for knowing glances to camera. Tom Conti gives a rather broad turn as a Greek tavern owner Shirley has an affair with, but he gives Collins plenty to bounce off. Dir: Lewis Gilbert (1989)

# Sleeping With The Enemy (C5, 10.25pm)

It might not be "good" in any real sense, but there is tacky enjoyment to be had in Joseph Ruben's overwrought thriller, which has megastar Julia Roberts as a woman who goes to extreme lengths to escape a controlling husband (Patrick Bergin). (1991) Olly Richards



It's all Greek to her (SCD, 9.20am)

### ON DEMAND

# James Joyce's Ulysses (BBC iPlayer)

Playful, irreverent, pretentious, verbose and enlightening, Adam Low's new *Arena film* about Joyce's masterpiece on the 100th anniversary of its publication is all of these and, as such, the perfect way to discuss this unknowably fine

and filthy novel. Contributors include Salman Rushdie, Colm Tóibín, Anne Enright, Howard Jacobson, Eimear McBride, and Paul Muldoon but the real star is the director, who captures the manifold wonders of this ridiculous book in the tone and tenor of his film. Best followed by *Anjelica Huston On James Joyce – A Shout In The Street* (also BBC iPlayer) in which the actress explores the life and work of her hero.

### Untrapped — The Story Of Lil Baby (Amazon)

He is one of the biggest rap stars in the world but don't worry if you've never heard of the artist born as Dominique Armani Jones as this is a film about much more: the history of Atlanta, the lie at the heart of the American Dream and the rags-to-riches narrative of hip hop success. As a crash course in modern rap stardom this is the bomb.

# Wedding Season (Disney+)

The makers of this eight-part romcom thriller hope that if each episode moves fast enough you won't notice all the plot loopholes. And it works, thanks to a zippy flashback structure and the spiky chemistry between Rosa Salazar's newlywed on the run and Gavin Drea as her reluctant partner in crime. *Andrew Male* 

### The Greatest Showman (Disney+)

With apologies to parents who have had to endure the soundtrack across countless car trips, this wildly popular musical is now available on Disney+. The script, loosely based on the life of PT Barnum, and Michael Gracey's direction are workmanlike, but the songs are almost all footstompers. You'll be humming it all over again. Sorry. (2017) OR

- 7.00pm The Next Step Drama. 7.45 Freeze — Skating On The Edge Documentary following a figure skater from Sheffield.
- 8.40 My Mate's A Bad Date A man is scaring away potential partners by talking wedding plans on the first date.
- 9.00 Bellator MMA Live coverage of Bellator 285 at 3Arena in Dublin, where the lightweight bout between Peter Queally and Benson Henderson is the scheduled main event.
- 11.30 Squad Goals Dorking 'Til I Die Dorking take on local rivals Sutton in a crucial game for the league.
- 1.10 Corey Baker's Dance Race 1.15 Sky High Club — Scotland And Beyond Reality series.
- 1.45 Dubai Hustle Documentary.
  2.15 Hire Me Competing For
- A Dream Job Reality series. 2.45 Sexsomnia — Case Closed?
- 3.40-3.55 Press X To Continue

### **DRAMA**

- 12.00 The Bill Police drama series. 1.00 Classic FastEnders Soan
- 2.20 Monarch Of The Glen
- 3.20 A Place To Call Home 4.20 All Creatures Great And
- Small Rural drama series.
- 5.20 Waiting For God Sitcom. 6.00 Are You Being Served?
- 6.40 'Allo 'Allo! Classic comedy.
- 7.20 Last Of The Summer Wine
- 8.00 Father Brown (Series 8, ep 4) 9.00 Detectorists Terry believes a man has buried his missing
  - wife in a paddock, (Series 1, en 3) 9.40 Detectorists Terry announces he is standing down as president.
- 10.20 New Tricks The team investigates the murder of a vicar. (Series 12, ep 3)
- **11.40 Spooks** (Series 5, ep 10)
- 1.00 Bad Girls (Series 4, ep 1) 2.15 The Heart Guy (\$4, ep 6)
- 3.05-4.00 Waiting For God

### BBC4

- 7.00pm One-Hit Wonders At The **BBC** Featuring hits by artists hardly heard from again.
- 8.00 Top Of The Pops With performances by D:Ream, Robin S, Freddie Mercury and Manic Street Preachers, 8.30 Top Of The Pops With Daniel O'Donnell and Madonna.
- 9.00 Roy Orbison Love Hurts Documentary revealing Orbison's legacy as a rock legend and a devoted father through interviews with his sons Alex, Roy Jr and Wesley.
- 10.00 Roy Sings Orbison The singer performs his hits.
- 10.30 Later The UK's finest stars of rap, grime and hip-hop.
- 11.30 Hip Hop At The BBC Featuring the Sugarhill Gang, Run-DMC and Eric B & Rakim.
- 12.30 Top Of The Pops Music.
- 1.30 One-Hit Wonders At The BBC 2.30 Roy Orbison — Love Hurts
- 3.30-4.00 Roy Sings Orbison

# SKYARTS

#### 6.00pm Alfred Hitchcock

**Presents** Conversation Over Corpse. Two sisters plot to poison an estate agent. 6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents Crack Of Doom, Poker brings a man to the brink of ruin.

- 7.00 Genesis When In Rome The rock band perform at the Circus Maximus in 2007.
- 9.00 Berlin Live Mike & The Mechanics The rock band perform at Schwuz nightclub in 2017, featuring hits Silent Running, Over My Shoulder and The Living Years.
- 10.20 Discovering Genesis The history of the band.
- 10.50 Music Icons: Progressive Rock, A look at the evolution of the genre.
- 11.20-12.20 The Ronnie Wood **Show** The Rolling Stone talks to Paul McCartney.

### ITV2

- 6.00pm Catchphrase Gameshow. 7.00 Secret Crush Dating show. 8.00 Bob's Burgers Gene
  - accompanies Bob to a rock'n'roll laser show. (S7, ep 18) 8.30 Bob's Burgers Linda could lose her position as the leader of the bake sale.
- 9.00 Rad Chefs Chaos continues in the kitchen as quest chef Katie Pix tries to teach the group how to cook a takeaway classic.
- 10.00 Family Guy Brian and Peter go on a mission to find a new Thanksgiving turkey. (Series 13, ep 5) 10.30 Family Guy Cleveland returns to the town. (Series 12, ep 20) 11.00 Family Guy Angry baby Stewie finds himself reborn into a British household.
- 11.30-12.00 American Dad! Stan suffers a crisis of faith that ends up taking him to South Korea. (Series 12, ep 15)

### ITV4

- 5.20pm Minder Arthur buys a large consignment of wine.
- 6.30 River Monsters Attacks by sharks in fresh water
- 7.00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? Quiz show.
- 8.00 The Chase With guests Su Pollard, Jordan Banjo, AJ Odudu and Jonathan Ross.
- 9.00 FILM: Jaws 2 Stars Roy Scheider. A shark menaces teenagers adrift off a seaside resort, while the police chief tries to alert the community. Unrewarding thriller. (1978, PG; includes FYI Daily)
- 11.25 All Elite Wrestling -Dynamite Hard-hitting action.
- 1.30 Auto Mundial The latest news from the world of cars
- 2.05 Motorsport Mundial Action.
- 2.30 The Protectors Drama 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.

### ITV3

- 6.00 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 Classic Emmerdale Soap
- 8.05 That's My Boy Sitcom.
- 9.15 The Royal Hospital series.
- 11.30 Heartbeat Rural drama.
- 1.40 Classic Emmerdale Soap.
- 2.40 Classic Coronation Street 3.45 Poirot The sleuth takes a break at Lake Windermere,
- only to find his skills are once again needed to investigate a murder. (Series 6, ep 4)
- 5.55 Heartbeat Vernon gets a surprise. 7.00 Heartbeat Bellamy chases joyriders through Aidensfield, but accidentally runs down a boy.
- 8.00 McDonald & Dodds The detectives investigate when the body of a businessman is found in a shallow grave in the shadow of Glastonbury Tor on the dawn of All Soul's Day. (Series 3, ep 4)
- **10.00 Wycliffe** The discovery of a body at a ramshackle farm alerts Wycliffe to the fact that a murderer is at large in the wilds of rural Cornwall. (Series 1, ep 4)
- 11.05 Maigret The pipe-smoking sleuth takes drastic measures to trap a serial killer terrorising the women of Montmartre, (Series 1, ep. 6)
- 12.15 Poirot A killer strikes at a student hostel, (S6, ep 2)
- 2.30-6.00 Teleshopping Goods.



Roy Orbison (BBC4, 9pm)

### **E4**

- **6.00pm The Big Bang Theory** Raj lusts after a girl at a party. (Series 3, ep 12) 6.30 The Big Bang Theory Leonard and Sheldon's flat is burgled.
- 7.00 Hollyoaks The McQueens' plan of getting Bobby to safety goes awry when Mercedes goes missing.
- 7.30 The Big Bang Theory Leonard visits the Large Hadron Collider. (S3, ep 15)
- 8.00 Below Deck -Mediterranean While Danny is away at the hospital, the crew revels in his absence.

#### 9.00 FILM: X-Men Origins

Wolverine Stars Hugh Jackman and Liev Schreiber. The mutant hero returns to his military unit seeking revenge as he is drawn into a battle with his psychotic brother. Falls flat. (2009, 12)

11.05-12.10 Naked Attraction

# **MORE4**

- 5.55pm Car SOS Fuzz Townshend and Tim Shaw restore a Bond Bug three-wheeler.
- 6.55 Escape To The Chateau With no guests to entertain at the chateau, the overhaul of
- the orangery continues.

  7.55 Great Canal Journeys Timothy West and Prunella Scales travel along the Kennet and Avon canal
- 9.00 Agatha Christie's Hjerson The body of a chef is found frozen in the fridge of a restaurant in a crime that seems identical to a murder from a manuscript, (5/8: Swedish with subtitles)
- 10.00 24 Hours In A&E A man is brought in after suffering a suspected stroke. 11.05-12.05 24 Hours In A&E A nine-year-old boy has a dangerously high heart rate.

### **FILMS**

### SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

6.00am Murder At Yellowstone City (2022, 15) 8.25 Marry Me (2022, 12) 10.30 Stowaway (2022, 15) 12.15 Uncharted. Stars Tom Holland and Mark Wahlberg. Action adventure. (2022, 12) 2.20 After Yang. A family reckons with questions of love, connection and loss after their AI helper breaks down. (2022, PG) **4.10** Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon (2021, 15) **6.00** Marry Me. As 8.25am. 8.00 Uncharted. Details as 12.15pm. 10.05 Scream. Twenty-five years after brutal murders shocked a quiet town, a new killer targets a group of teenagers. (2022, 18) **12.10** After Yang. Details as 2.20pm. 2.00 Stowaway. As 10.30am. **3.40-6.00** Murder At Yellowstone City. As 6am.

#### SKY CINEMA THRILLER

**2.30pm** The Last Job (2021, 15) **4.20** The Gateway (2021, 15) **6.00** Revolver (2005, 15) **8.00** Inferno. A professor suffering from amnesia tries to stop a lethal virus from killing millions. (2016, 12) 10.05 The Cold Light Of Day. A detective determines to catch a serial killer targeting children. (1995, 15) **11.50-2.05** The Little Things (2021, 15)

### **SKY CINEMA GREATS**

6.45am The Godfather Part III (1990, 15) 9.50 Lawrence Of Arabia. A British Army officer tries to unite the Arab nations against the Turks. (1962, PG) **1.35** Apollo 13 (1995, PG) **4.10** The Ten Commandments. Moses comes out of exile to free the Hebrew people from Egyptian rule. (1956, U) 8.00 Gladiator An enslaved Roman general seeks revenge on a tyrant for the murder of his family. (2000, 15) 10.40 Taxi Driver. A misanthropic New York cabbie is gradually driven to a brutal act of violence. (1976, 18) **12.45** Lawrence Of Arabia. Details as 9.50am. 4.20-6.00 Carry On Cruising (1962, U)

#### **SKY CINEMA SELECT**

2.30pm The Da Vinci Code. An academic falsely accused of murder uncovers a dangerous conspiracy. (2006, 12) 5.00 The Godfather. A crime family becomes involved in a battle for control of New York. (1972, 15) 8.00 Terminator 2 — Judgment Day. A cyborg is sent to protect the future saviour of the human race. (1991, 15) **10.40** The Fugitive. A man wrongly convicted of his wife's murder goes on the run. (1993, 15) **12.55** Escape Plan (2013, 15) **3.00-6.00** The Godfather. Details as 5pm.

#### FILM4

11.00am Gunpoint (1966, PG) 12.45 Tobruk (1967, PG) 3.00 The Admirable Crichton. An aristocrat and his entire household are shipwrecked on an island. (1957, U) **4.55** Night Passage. The black sheep of a family joins a gang plotting to rob a train operated by his brother. (1957, U) 6.45 How To Lose A Guy In 10 Days. A female journalist sets out to test a theory about relationships. (2003, 12) **9.00** A Vigilante. After escaping her violent husband, a woman makes it her life's mission to help free others in danger. (2019, 15) 10.50 Den Of Thieves. Stars Gerard Butler, (2018, 15) 1.35-3.25 Don't Breathe (2016, 15)

#### TALKING PICTURES TV

3.40pm Kind Hearts And Coronets The penniless grandson of a duke plots to eliminate the eight relatives standing between him and a vast inheritance. (1949, U) **5.50** The Hunters. A former Second World War pilot leads a squadron on a series of daring missions (1958, PG) **8.00** The Outer Limits **9.05** Never Take Candy From A Stranger. A school principal fights to prove that the head of a wealthy and respected family is a sexual predator. (1960, 18) 10.50-12.55 Nightwing (1979, 15)

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

#### GOLD

**7.00am** Keeping Up Appearances **7.40** Outnumbered **8.15** 2point4 Children 8.55 Hi-De-Hi! 9.30 Still Open All Hours **10.10** Last Of The Summer Wine **11.30** Desmond's **12.05** 2point4 Children 12.40 Dad's Army 2.00 Keeping Up Appearances **2.40** Last Of The Summer Wine **4.00** Dad's Army **4.40** Still Open All Hours **5.20** Keeping Up Appearances 6.00 Hi-De-Hi! 6.40 Dad's Army 8.00 Porridge **9.20** The Office **10.40** Only Fools And Horses **12.00** All Round To Mrs Brown's **1.20** The Cockfields **2.30** Live At The Apollo **3.30-4.00** Porridge

#### SKY COMEDY

6.00pm Futurama 6.30 Everybody Hates Chris **7.30** The US Office **9.00** Girls **10.00** Late Late Show Best Of The Week. Highlights 11.00 The Rehearsal **11.35** The Late Late Show **12.30** The Tonight Show **1.30** Entourage 4.00-5.00 Everybody Hates Chris

#### SKY WITNESS

6.00pm Nothing To Declare 8.00 Blue Bloods. Danny is charged with using excessive force. **9.00** FBI — Most Wanted. The team hunts for a man using napalm-style bombs to attack his targets 10.00 Blue Bloods 11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit 12.00 The Equalizer 1.00 Law & Order: Specia Victims Unit 2.00 The Force Manchester 4.00 Road Wars

5.00-6.00 Brit Cops — Law & Disorder

#### **6.00pm** Property Brothers — Forever Homes **7.00** Masterchef Australia. The contestants are challenged to create an entrancing dish 8.30 999 Rescue Squad 9.30 Inside The Ambulance 10.00 The Catherine Tate Show **12.00** Nurses On The Ward 1.00-3.00 Tipping Point

6.00pm Home And Away 7.00 Caught On Camera — Funniest Moments **9.00** FILM: Oblivion. Stars Tom Cruise and Morgan Freeman 11.35 FILM: Alien Resurrection. Stars Sigourney Weaver, Winona Ryder and Ron Perlman. Sci-fi thriller sequel 1.45 Dirty Home Rescue 2.45 Wanted 3.30 Judge Judy 3.55-4.00 Entertainment News

6.00pm NCIS 9.00 Private Eyes. Shade and Angie recruit Liam, Jules and Becca for help in an investigation **10.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **1.50** Private Eyes **3.35-4.00** Criminals — Caught On Camera

- 6.00 James Max Discussion. 6.30 Jeremy Kyle Political debate.
- 10.00 The Independent Republic Of Mike Graham Discussion.
- 1.00 Ian Collins Monologues debates and viewers' calls.
- 4.00 Vanessa Feltz Analysis. 7.00 The News Desk The presenter Tom Newton Dunn tackles
- the biggest stories of the day 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored **Best Of** Piers presents his verdict on the week's events.
- 9.00 The Talk A panel of wellknown faces debate the topics everybody is talking about.
- 10.00 The James Whale Show 11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored Best Of Highlights.
- 12.00 The James Whale Show
  1.00 Darryl Morris Debate.
- 4.00 The Talk Discussion.
- 5.00-6.00 Cristo Chat Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237: Virgin 627; Freesat 217; YouTube, connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

- 6.00pm Stargate SG-1 Thor asks for help. (Series 6, ep 12, R) 7.00 Stargate SG-1 An ancient relic causes problems for the team. (R)
- 8.00 A League Of Their Own With guests Patrice Evra, Jimmy Carr, Richard Ayoade and Angela Scanlon. (R)

  9.00 Rob & Romesh vs Cricket
- South Africa Rob Beckett and Romesh Ranganathan go to Cape Town to see England play a Test. (R)
- 10.00 Banshee Carrie is surprised to see Hood waiting for her when she is released from prison. (Series 2, ep 5, R)
- 11.00 Never Mind The Buzzcocks With guests Roisin Conaty, ArrDee and James Bay. (R)
- 11.45-12.30 The Russell Howard **Hour** Topical comedy and entertainment show. (R)

# SKYATLANTIC

- 6.00 Storm City Insights.
- 7.45 Boardwalk Empire Drama. 10.00 The Sopranos Crime drama.
- 12.15 Ray Donovan Drama series. 2.25 Game Of Thrones (S3, ep 4)
- 3.30 Boardwalk Empire Nucky looks to the future as the end of Prohibition looms. (Series 5, ep 1) 4.40 Boardwalk **Empire** Nucky is knocked back by a group of financiers.
- 5.45 The Sopranos Christopher faces a tough decision. (Series 4, ep 10) 6.50 The Sopranos Tony's housing development funds scam hangs in the balance.
- 7.55 Game Of Thrones Robb is betrayed. (Series 3, ep 5)
- 9.00 Munich Games Maria's affair with her informant is exposed. (4/6; German, Hebrew and Arabic with subtitles)
- 10.00 House Of The Dragon Game of Thrones prequel. (5/10)
- **11.10 Nightingale** A war veteran suffers a psychological breakdown ahead of an impending visit from a friend.
- 12.40 We Own This City Jensen, Sieracki and Leo Wise prepare to charge the officers of the GTTE (5/6)
- **1.50 The Wire** Herc and Carver arrest a senator's driver. (S1, ep 8) 2.55 The Wire Avon has a run-in with a rival trafficker.
- 4.00-6.00 Storm City Insights.



Wahlberg and Holland (SCP, 8pm)

### **SPORT**

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT 6.00am News 7.00 Good Morning Sports Fans 8.00 LIVE NPC Rugby: Canterbury v Auckland. Kickoff at 8.05 **10.00** The Football Show **12.00** News 12.30 LIVE DP World Tour Golf. Day two of the Open de France in Paris France **3.00** LIVE T20 Cricket: Pakistan v England **7.30 LIVE** PGA Tour Golf. The Presidents Cup **11.00** News **12.00** Total Access 1.00 News 2.00 LIVE Fight Night International. Shakur Stevenson takes on Robson Concecajo **5.30-7.30 LIVE** NPC Rugby: Wellington v Waikato. Kickoff at 5.35

#### **EUROSPORT 1**

8.30am Mountain Bike Enduro World Series Show **9.00** Climbing World Cup **10.00** Hall Of Fame: Tokyo 2020 11.00 Cycling. The Road World championships 1.00 LIVE Tennis. Day one of the Laver Cup at the O<sub>2</sub>, London **3.00 LIVE** Tennis. Further coverage of day one of the Layer Cup at the O<sub>2</sub>. London **5.05** Cycling. The Road World championships 7.00 LIVE Tennis Further coverage of day one of the Laver Cup at the O2, London 9.00 LIVE Tennis. Day one of the Layer Cup at the O<sub>2</sub>, London **11.00** Cycling. The Road World championships 3.15-8.45 LIVE Cycling. The Road World championships women's road race

#### RT SPORT 1

6.00am LIVE AFLW: Collingwood and Essendon. Bounce-up at 6.10 8.00 Premier League Stories 8.30 Serie A - Full Impact **9.00** Reload **9.15** DIY Pundit 9.45 ESPN FC 10.15 LIVE AFLW: Carlton v Melbourne. Bounce-up at 10.30 **12.15** PTO Triathlon. Action from the US Open 1.15 What I Wore 1.30 Hero CPL Highlights **2.00** Hero CPL Highlights **2.30** ESPN Films Presents **3.30** Fishing — On The Bank **4.30** 30 For 30 — Of Miracles & Men **6.00** ESPN FC **6.30** DIY Pundit **7.00 LIVE** Premiership Rugby Union: Bath v Wasns At The Recreation Ground kickoff at 7.45 **10.00** Films **11.15** Sport In Focus **11.30** Uefa Champions League Magazine **12.00** WWE Smackdown Highlights 1.00 LIVE WWE Friday Night Smackdown 3.00 UFC Fight Camp 3.30 The Outdoor Sports Show 4.00 World Rallycross Championship Highlights **5.00-9.00 LIVE** AFL. Coverage of the grand final, held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Bounce-up at 5.30

# **RADIO**

### **PICK OF THE DAY**



### **Jaime Winstone's Best Night Ever**

#### Podcast

The personable actress and girl-about-town invites guests including Danny Dyer, Rita Ora, Cara Delevingne and Nick Grimshaw to reminisce about top nights out. Marietta Kirkbride's drama One Five Seven Years (Radio 4. 2.15pm) imagines a world where a minority of people are discovered to have "extended life syndrome" and could live for many years more than average. Clair Woodward

**5.30** News **5.43** Prayer **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet Of The Day (R) **6.00** Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday In Parliament **9.00** Desert Island Discs. With guest Sue Barker (R) **9.45** Book Of The Week 9.45 (LW) Daily Service 10.00 Woman's Hour 11.00 Net Zero -A Very British Problem 11.30 Relativity **12.00** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping **12.04** Paris-Zurich-Trieste — Joyce L'European (R) **1.00** The World At One **1.45** TBA **2.00** The Archers (R) **2.15** Drama: One Five Seven Years, by Marietta Kirkbride. In an alternate world, a minority of people have a syndrome allowing them to live twice as long as everyone else **2.45** Living With The Gods (R) **3.00** Gardeners' Question Time 3.30 BBC National Short Story Award 3.45 Short Works 4.00 Last Word 4.30 More Or Less (R) 5.00 PM 5.54 (LW) Shipping 6.00 News 6.30 The News Quiz 7.00 The Archers 7.15 Screenshot 8.00 Any Questions? 8.50 A Point Of View 9.00 Dear Adolf — Letters To The Fuhrer (R) **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book At Bedtime **11.00** Great Lives (R) **11.30** Today In Parliament **12.00** News **12.30** Book Of The Week (R) **12.48** Shipping **1.00** As World Service

#### **TIMES RADIO**

5.00 Anna Cunningham With Early Breakfast **6.00** Chloe Tilley And Calum Macdonald With Times Radio Breakfast 10.00 Matt Chorley 1.00 Ruth Davidson **4.00** Cathy Newman With Times Radio Drive. Headlines and discussions 7.00 Michael Portillo. Cultured conversation and political interview **10.00** Kait Borsay. Late-night conversation 1.00 Stories Of Our Times **1.30** Red Box **2.00** Highlights From Times Radio

To get in touch with the Times Radio studio, text TIMES plus your message to 87222. Texts cost your standard message charge

#### RADIO 4 FXTRA

5.00 To Hull And Back 5.30 Michael Spicer — Before Next Door 6.00 Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **6.30**The Cry Of The Owl **7.00** Miracles R Us 7.30 Ed Reardon's Week 8.00 It Sticks Out Half A Mile 8.30 Thirty Minutes Worth 9.00 Say The Word 9.30 The Circle 10.00 Cold Comfort Farm 11.00 Podcast Radio Hour 12.00 It Sticks Out Half A Mile **12.30** Thirty Minutes Worth **1.00** Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **1.30** The Cry Of The Owl **2.00** In Montparnasse **2.15** Eleanor Rising 2.30 The Invisible College 3.00 Cold Comfort Farm **4.00** Say The Word **4.30** The Circle **5.00** Miracles R Us **5.30** Ed Reardon's Week 6.00 The House On The Hill **6.30** Sounds Natural **7.00** It Sticks Out Half A Mile **7.30** Thirty Minutes Worth 8.00 Paul Temple And The Jonathan Mystery **8.30** The Cry Of The Owl **9.00** Podcast Radio Hour 10.00 Ed Reardon's Week 10.30 Mitch Benn's Crimes Against Music 11.00 What The Future? 11.30-12.00 James Acaster's Perfect Sounds

7.00 Nick Ferrari 10.00 James O'Brien 1.00 Shelagh Fogarty 4.00 Tom Swarbrick **6.00** TBA **9.00** The Consumer Hour 10.00 Nick Abbot 1.00 Clive Bull 4.00 Richard Spurr

6.30 Breakfast 9.00 Essential Classics 12.00 Composer Of The Week (R) 1.00 Lunchtime Concert. From the Granada festival. Tabea Zimmermann plays works by Piazzolla and Albeniz, Yulianna Avdeeva plays Bach, and Vivica Genaux sings a Venetian song **2.00** Afternoon Concert. The Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra perform Sibelius' Symphony 2, and Chopin's Piano Concerto 2, with Emanuel Ax **4.30** The Listening Service (R) **5.00** In Tune **7.00** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. Live at the Royal Festival Hall, the organist Iveta Apkalna plays musi by Philip Glass, Bach and Widor **10.00** The Verb. Featuring the best poetry, new writing and performance 10.45 The Essay. Casey Bailey returns to Birmingham after a holiday and relives memories of his childhood in Nechells **11.00** Late Junction. Verity Sharp pays tribute to the field recordist lan Rawes, founder of the London Sound Survey 1.00 Tearjerker 2.00 Downtime Symphony (R) 3.00 Through The Night

#### CLASSIC FM

6.00 Tim Lihoreau 9.00 Alexander Armstrong 12.00 Lucy Coward 4.00 John Brunning 7.00 Zeb Soanes 10.00 Margherita Taylor 1.00 Katie Breathwick 4.00 Sam Pittis

#### RADIO 2

**6.30** The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jeremy Vine 2.00 Steve Wright 5.00 Sara Cox 7.00 Michelle Visage **9.00** The Good Groove **11.00** The Rock Show **12.00** Romesh Ranganathan — For The Love Of Hip-Hop 1.00 My Life In A Mixtape (R) **2.00** Radio 2 Unwinds (R) **3.00** Trevor Nelson's Magnificent 7 (R) 3.30 TBA 4.00 Sophie Ellis-Bexton

#### VIRGIN RADIO

**6.30** Chris Evans **10.00** Eddy Temple-Morris 1.00 Tim Cocker 4.00 Gaby Roslin **7.00** Ben Jones **10.00** Stu Elmore 1.00 Emma Nolan

#### TALKSPORT

5.00 Early Breakfast 6.00 Breakfast With Alan Brazil 10.00 Jim White And Simon Jordan 1.00 Hawksbee And Jacobs **4.00** Drive **7.00** Kick Off: Italy v England. Kickoff 7.45 **10.00** Sports Bar 1.00 Extra Time

#### COMEDY CENTRAL

8.00am Most Ridiculous: Bonkers Bodies 8.35 Most Ridiculous: Mad Mums 9.00 Takeshi's Castle 10.00 Your Face Or Mine 11.00 Friends 9.00 FILM: American Pie - The Wedding. Stars Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan 10.55 Ridiculousness 11.55 South Park **1.55** The Ren & Stimpy Show **3.45** The Daily Show **4.15-5.00** Friends

### YESTERDAY

6.00am Forbidden History 8.00 Top Gear **9.00** The World At War **10.00** War Factories 11.00 Abandoned Engineering 12.00 The Architecture The Railways Built **1.00** Bangers And Cash 2.00 Abandoned Engineering 4.00 War Factories 5.00 The World At War **6.00** Top Gear **7.00** Abandoned Engineering **8.00** Hornby — A Model World **9.00** Steam Train Britain **10.00** Bangers And Cash **11.00** Abandoned Engineering **12.00-1.00** Top Gear

**6.00pm** Taskmaster **7.00** House Of Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie To You? 9.00 QI XL. With guests Daliso Chaponda, Cariad Lloyd and Phill Jupitus. **10.00** FILM: Superbad **12.30** QI **1.10** QI XL **2.20** Room 101 **2.50** Would I Lie To You? 3.25-4.00 Room 101

### **FACTUAL**

#### **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

**6.00pm** Megastructures **7.00** Air Crash Investigation 8.00 9/11 — One Day In America **10.00** 9/11 — Missing Carmen Rivera 11.00 Air Crash Investigation 12.00 Car SOS 1.00-2.00 Wicked Tuna

#### DISCOVERY

**6.00pm** Bitchin' Rides **7.00** Junkyard Empire 8.00 Gold Rush 9.00 Expedition Unknown. Josh looks to answer enduring questions around Moses' existence 10.00 UFO Witness. Reports of fireballs in the skies of northern Idaho 11.00 Yukon Men 12.00 Mysteries Of The Deep 1.00-2.00 Expedition Unknown

#### PBS AMERICA

5.35pm Nazi Hunters 6.30 Castles Britain's Fortified History **7.35** Muhammad Ali 9.55 Nazi Hunters. The hunt for Franz Standl 10.50-12.00 Surrender On The USS Missouri. Those who witnessed the official Japanese surrender during the Second World War

#### SKY DOCUMENTARIES

**6.00am** Fish Town **7.00** Discovering Karl Malden **8.00** The Directors **9.00** Liverpool Narcos 9.55 The Man Who Bought Cricket 10.50 The Vietnam War

12.00 Lennox — The Untold Story 2.00 The Fog Of War **4.00** The Directors **5.00** Discovering Karl Malden **6.00** Liverpool Narcos **6.55** The Man Who Bought Cricket **7.50** The Vietnam War **9.00** Music Box. Alanis Morissette's rise to fame **10.50-12.45** Belushi

#### **SKY NATURE**

6.00am Wild Dogs - Running With The Pack **7.00** Extreme Africa **8.00** Osprey **9.00** Malawi Wildlife Rescue **10.00** Into The Wild — India 11.00 Surviving The Amazon 12.00 Mysteries Of The Mekong 1.00 Osprey 2.00 Extreme Africa 3.00 Into The Wild — India 4.00 Malawi Wildlife Rescue **5.00** Surviving The Amazon **6.00** Mysteries Of The Mekong **7.00** Osprey **8.00** Hope For Wildlife **9.00** Wild Tales From The Farm. The rams battle for dominance 10.00 Surviving The Amazon. The illegal trafficking of monkeys in Peru 11.00-12.00 Mysteries Of The Mekong

#### SMITHSONIAN

6.00am Aerial America 10.00 Combat Ships **1.00** Incredible Animal Moments **2.00** Lethal Attractions **3.00** Aerial Africa **4.00** Aerial New Zealand **5.00** How Did They Build That? 6.00 Ice Airport Alaska **7.00** Aerial Ireland. Exploring the diversity and history of Ireland 8.00-12.00 Space Disasters

# **SATURDAY** 24 SEPTEMBER



Weimar constitutions: four friends party like it's 1929 (BBC4, 9pm)

### BBC1

- **6.00 Breakfast** The latest reports. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Cooking. 11.30 Mary Berry - Cook & Share Recipe suggestions. (R)
- 12.00 Football Focus Discussion.
- 12.30 Bargain Hunt Curios. (R) 1.00 BBC News Headlines.
- 1.15 TBA
- 3.35 Antiques Road Trip Items.
- 4.20 Superman & Lois Double bill.
- 5.40 News; Weather Reports. 6.00 The Hit List Music-based
- guiz show, hosted by Marvin and Rochelle Humes.
- 6.45 Strictly Come Dancing Procelebrity contest in which sets of partners battle it out on the dance floor to convince judges and viewers they can trip the light fantastic.
- 9.10 Blankety Blank Bradley Walsh hosts the comedy quiz show, in which a panel of six celebrities fill in the missing blanks to help contestants win a selection of prizes.
- 9.40 The Secrets She Keeps Adaptation of Michael Robotham's novel, with Laura Carmichael and Jessica De Gouw.
- 10.30 News; Weather Reports. 10.50 Rugby League — Super League Grand Final Highlights Action from the encounter at Old Trafford.
- 11.50 FILM: Boyz N The Hood Stars Cuba Gooding Jr and Laurence Fishburne. A teenager growing up in South Central Los Angeles with a domineering single father struggles to resist the temptation of crime. Vigorous drama, (1991, 15)
- 1.40 Joins BBC News Update. 6.00 Breakfast The latest reports. 9.00 Sunday With Laura
- Kuenssberg Discussion. 10.00 Politics News and debate.
- 10.30 Sunday Morning Live 11.30-12.30 Celebration Kitchen Cooking.
- **SCOTLAND 5.50** Reporting

Scotland; Weather. 10.50 Sportscene Uefa League Highlights. 11.35 Rugby League — Super League Grand Final Highlights. **12.35** FILM: Boyz N The Hood. **2.25** BBC News.

# BBC2

- 6.35 Children's Shows Fun. 9.30 Deadly Pole To Pole (R)
- 10.00 Natural World (R)
- **11.00 12 Puppies And Us** (R) 12.00 Best Bakes Ever (R)
- 12.45 World Rowing
  Championships Live coverage from Racice
- in the Czech Republic. 2.45 World Road Cycling **Championships Highlights** Action from the women's
- road race in Australia. 4.00 The Hotel People (R)
- 5.00 Flog It! Selling valuables. (R)
- 5.35 All That Glitters Britain's Next Jewellery Star (R)
- 6.35 Simon Reeve's South America The adventurer travels through Brazil. (R)
- 7.35 Ukraine's Musical Freedom Fighters Clive Myrie meets Ukrainian musicians who are creating an orchestra.
- 8.35 Mortimer & Whitehouse -Gone Fishing Bob Mortimer and Paul Whitehouse embark on angling trips in the UK. (R)
- 9.10 Kylie At The BBC A selection of archive performances by Kylie Minogue.
- 10.10 Reel Stories: Kylie Minogue. The singer discusses her career with Dermot O'Leary.
- 10.40 Kylie Minogue Live In Hyde Park The singer performs live in front of a 45,000-strong crowd at the 2018 BBC Radio 2 Festival in a Day.
- 11.40 Top Of The Pops 1988: Big Hits. Featuring S'Express, Bomb the Bass, Bros, Neneh Cherry and Eurythmics. (R)
- 12.40 FILM: Absolutely Fabulous The Movie Stars Jennifer
  - Saunders and Joanna Lumley, Patsy and Edina are hounded by the paparazzi. Chaotic spin-off, (2016, 15)
- ${\bf 2.10\text{-}2.45\,Cricket-Women's\,ODI}$ Highlights England v India.
- 6.05 Gardeners' World Advice. (R)
- 7.05 Countryfile Rural reports. (R) 8.00 Beechgrove Gardening. (R)
- 8.30 Landward Rural issues. (R) 9.00 This Farming Life (R)
- 10.00 TRA
- 11.00 Nadiya's Everyday Baking (R) 11.30-12.30 The Great British Countryside Insights. (R)

# ITV

- 6.00 Children's Shows Fun. 9.25 James Martin's Saturday
- Morning Chat show. 11.35 John And Lisa's Weekend Kitchen Cookery show.
- 12.35 News; Weather Reports. 12.45 Snooker Live coverage of day one of the world mixed doubles championship, at
- Marshall Arena, Milton Keynes 5.00 News; Weather Reports. 5.15 Regional News Update.
- 5.30 Ninja Warrior Race For Glory More competitors take on the obstacle course.
- 6.30 The Masked Dancer Joel Dommett hosts the dancing contest in which a panel must guess the identities of famous faces performing in elaborate costumes.
- 8.00 The Voice Spinning-chair singing contest, in which celebrity coaches seek out the nation's best vocal talent.
- 9.30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? Jeremy Clarkson gives another line-up of contestants the chance to win a fortune.
- 10.25 News; Weather Reports. 10.40 English Football League Highlights Recent action, including Forest Green Rovers v Exeter City, Derby County v Cheltenham Town, and Portsmouth v Rolton Wanderers.
- 11.40 The 1% Club Quiz show, hosted by Lee Mack. (R)
- 12.40 Teleshopping Goods. 3.00 Unwind Daily relaxation.
- 4.15 Love Your Weekend (R)
- 6.00 Children's Shows Fun.
- 9.25 News; Weather Reports. 9.30 Love Your Weekend
- 11.30-12.30 English Football League Highlights (R)

### CHANNEL 4

- 6.10 The King Of Queens (R) 6.55 Everybody Loves Raymond Family comedy series. (R)
- 8.10 Frasier American sitcom. (R) 9.05 The Simpsons Cartoon. (R)
- 11.15 FILM: Leap Year Stars Amy Adams and Matthew Goode. Romantic comedy. (2010, PG)
- 1.10 Four In A Bed Contest. (R)
- 3.50 Moneybags Quiz show. 4.50 News; Weather Reports.
- 5.20 FILM: The Day After Tomorrow Stars Dennis Quaid. A climatologist races
  - to rescue his son as freak weather conditions cause devastation around the world. Impressive. (2004, 12)
- 8.00 Hitler The Lost Tapes Examining the archive of Hitler at home. (2/4)
- 9.00 FILM: Mission: Impossible

- Fallout Stars Tom Cruise. Ethan Hunt, the IMF team and a CIA assassin try to prevent a disaster caused by a group of terrorists. Thrilling sequel. (2018, 12)

### 11.45 FILM: The Mountain

Between Us Stars Idris Flha and Kate Winslet A neurosurgeon and a bride try to survive their plane crashes. Solid. (2017, 12)

- 1.45 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA Advice. (R)
- 2.35 Car SOS Renovations. (R)
- 3.30 Come Dine With Me (R) 6.20 The King Of Queens (R)
- 7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond Family comedy series. (R)
- 8.25 The Simpsons Cartoon. (R)
- 8.55 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders A gnocchi supper. (R)
- 9.30-12.30 Sunday Brunch Chat.

### **CHANNEL 5**

- 6.00 Milkshake! Fun for children. 10.00 The Smurfs Cartoon. (R)
- **10.15 Spongebob** Animation. (R)
- 10.25 Entertainment News Gossip.
- 10.30 Friends American sitcom. (R)
  - 1.00 FILM: Ice Age 3 Dawn Of The Dinosaurs With the voice of Ray Romano. Fun animation. (2009, U)
- 3.05 FILM: Richie Rich Stars Macaulay Culkin. Family comedy. (1994, PG)
- 5.00 All Creatures Great And Small James struggles to get Siegfried to let him take the reins. (Series 3, ep 1, R)
- 6.00 Michael Palin Into Iraq The presenter embarks on an epic, revelatory journey through Iraq. (1/3, R)
- 7.00 The Battle Of Britain Dan Snow and Kate Humble offer a guide to the aerial battle. (R)
- 9.00 The Unforgettable Diana Dors A profile of the actress.
- 10.30 FILM: Steptoe And Son Ride **Again** Stars Harry H Corbett and Wilfrid Brambell. A ragand-bone man spends his father's life savings on a greyhound. Weak. (1973, PG)
- 12.30 TBA
- 1.00 The LeoVegas Live Casino Show Interactive gambling.
- 3.00 Trawlermen Celebs At Sea The celebs catch cod. (R)
- 4.35 New Lives In The Wild (R)
- 5.25 Entertainment News Gossip. 5.30 Children's Shows Fun.
- 6.00 Milkshake! Fun for children. 10.00 The Smurfs Cartoon. (R)
- 10.15 Spongebob Animation. (R)
- 10.25 Entertainment News Gossip.
- 10.30 NFL End Zone Recent action.
- 11.00-12.00 Friends Sitcom. (R)

### **FILMS**

SKY CINEMA PREMIERE 6.00am The Cinema List -Veteran Action Stars Film insights. 6.15 Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon Mystery thriller. (2021, 15) 8.05 Belfast Stars Jude Hill. A boy and his family experience the tumultuous late 1960s in Belfast. (2021, 12) 10.05 Uncharted A street-smart man is recruited by a seasoned treasure hunter to recover a fortune. (2022, 12) **12.15 Shark Bait** A group of friends steal a couple of jetskis. (2022, 15) **2.00 Marry Me** Romcom. (2022, 12) **4.10 After Yang** Sci-fi drama. (2022, PG) 6.05 Belfast Details as 8.05am. **8.00 Uncharted** Details as 10.05am. **10.05 Shark Bait** Details as 12.15pm. 11.40 Marry Me Romcom. (2022, 12) 1.40 Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon

Mystery thriller. (2021, 15) **3.30 Stowaway** (2022, 15) 5.00-6.45 After Yang (2022, PG) SKY CINEMA SELECT 3.15pm The Matrix Resurrections Sci-fi drama sequel. (2021, 15) **5.45 The Suicide Squad** (2021, 15) 8.00 Dune The son of a noble family is entrusted with the protection of the galaxy's most valuable asset, (2021, 12) 10.40 Django Unchained An escaped slave tries to rescue his wife from a sadistic plantation owner, (2012, 18) 1.30 Scream Horror. (1996, 18) 3.30 The Conjuring — The Devil Made Me Do It Horror sequel. (2021, 15)

5.25-7.05 Monster Family (2017, PG)

#### FILM4

11.00am Carry On Spying (1964, U) 12.45 The Art Of Racing In The Rain Comedy drama. (2019, PG) 2.55 Nutty Professor II — The Klumps

The scientist tries to rid himself of his troublesome alter ego. (2000, 12) 4.50 Kindergarten Cop (1990, 12) 7.00 Eye In The Sky A mission goes awry when a girl enters the blast radius of a planned drone strike. (2015, 15) 9.00 Glass Men with special abilities end up in a mental hospital, where a

doctor has sinister plans. (2019, 15) 11.35 Assassination Nation (2018-18) 1.45-3.30 My Friend Dahmer



Belfast child: Hill (SCP, 6.05pm)

#### TALKING PICTURES TV

3.30pm Rhubarb Comedy. (1968, U) 4.15 The Lost World (1960, U) 6.15 The Bold And The Brave Three American soldiers are stationed in Italy during World War Two. (1956, PG)

8.00 Maigret Mystery drama. 9.05 Summertime An American woman falls in love with a married man while holidaying in Venice. (1955, U) 11.00-1.10 The Offence (1973, 15)

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

ITV2

2.55pm FILM: Robots. With the voice of Ewan McGregor. Animated adventure 4.45 FILM: Madagascar, With the voices of Ben Stiller and David Schwimmer 6.25 FILM: Dawn Of The Planet Of The Anes, Stars Andy Serkis and Jason, Clarke. The leader of a colony of simians tries to stop his tribe going to war 9.00 FILM: Ted 2 11.15 Family Guy 12.10 American Dad! **1.10-11.30** All American

6.00pm Poirot. A wealthy banker goes missing **7.00** Midsomer Murders. With John Nettles. An old family feud resurfaces in Midsomer Parva 9.00 Midsomer Murders. A reclusive couple are murdered 11.05 Poirot. The sleuth investigates the murder of an heiress on board an old steamer in Egypt 1.10 That's My Boy 2.15-2.30 Unwind

9.30am Racing — The Opening Show **10.30** The Big Match Revisited

7.00pm Francesco's Italy Top To **Toe** Francesco de Mosto presents his guide to Italy, travelling towards Sicily.

8.00 Himalaya Michael Palin embarks on a journey through the mountains of Pakistan, India, Nepal China and Bangladesh

9.00 KaDeWe — Our Time Is Now A new drama series set in the 1920s in Berlin. 9.45 KaDeWe — Our Time Is Now With Valerie Stoll, Lia von Blarer and Joel Basman.

10.35 Berlin 1945 Life in the German capital in the year the Second World War ended.

11.30 One Day In Ukraine A snapshot of one day in a country under siege, filmed on March 14, by a collective of Ukrainian film-makers.

12.50 Keeping Up Appearances 1.20 Ever Decreasing Circles 1.50 Francesco's Italy Top To Toe 2.50-3.50 Himalaya Insights



Ukraine fan: Myrie (BBC2, 7.35pm)

### **TALKTV**

6.00 Cristo Morning updates. 7.00 David Bull Roundup of the biggest stories of the day.

10.00 Peter Cardwell The latest news from parliament and exclusive interviews.

1.00 Trisha Goddard A look through the week's stories.

4.00 Claudia Liza Discussing the biggest stories of the day.

7.00 Saturday Night Talkaway The host Kevin O'Sullivan gives his unique take on the week's top stories.

10.00 The James Whale Show Opinions and commentary. 1.00 Darryl Morris Discussion

throughout the night. 5.00-6.00 Cristo Morning updates. Available on Sky 526; Freeview 237; Virgin 627: Freesat 217: YouTube. connected TVs and smart devices

# SKYMAX

6.00pm Swat Street is a passenger on a hijacked plane. (Series 5, ep 19, R)

7.00 NCIS: Los Angeles The team works with DEA agent Talia Del Campo. (S13, ep 19, R)

8.00 A League Of Their Own With guests Patrice Evra, Jimmy Carr, Richard Ayoade and Angela Scanlon. (R)

9.00 Never Mind The Buzzcocks With Roisin Conaty, ArrDee and James Bay. (R)

9.45 Strike Back — Vendetta

Section 20 is sent on a military mission to Bosnia. (Series 8, ep 7, R)

10.45 Brassic A camping trip turns into a nightmare. (S4, ep 3, R) 11.45-12.45 Banshee A hitman

arrives in town. (S2, ep 6, R)

### **ATLANTIC**

6.00 Fish Town Brixham life. 10.00 Boardwalk Empire Drama.

3.30 The Sopranos Tony warns Janice about her new love; and Adriana abruptly ends her friendship with Danielle. (Series 4, ep 2) 4.40 The Sopranos Father Phil hosts an Italian Pride ladies' lunch. and Bobby's wife has a car accident. 5.45 The Sopranos A disparaging remark about his wife's weight sets a livid Johnny on a personal vendetta. 6.50 The Sopranos Tony pays a visit to the track to check out Ralph's new horse. 7.55 The Sopranos Carmela arranges a date for Furio; and Artie Bucco helps his new hostess's brother by lending him money.

9.00 Game Of Thrones Daenerys arrives in Slaver's Bay looking to form an army: and Jon Snow tries to earn the trust of wildling leader Mance Rayder. (Series 3, ep 1) 10.05 Game Of Thrones Arya encounters the Brotherhood Without Banners; and Margaery and her grandmother encourage Sansa to speak freely about Joffrey. 11.10 Game Of Thrones Jaime strikes a deal

with his captors; and Tyrion assumes new responsibilities 12.15 Game Of Thrones

Arya is brought before the commander of the Brotherhood Without Banners. 1.20 Game Of Thrones Jon proves himself; and Robb is betrayed.

2.30 In Treatment (S2, ep 28) **3.00 The Gilded Age** (4/9) 4.00-6.00 Fish Town Insights.

### **DRAMA**

**11.00 Sharpe** (Series 2, ep 3) 1.00 Pie In The Sky Crime drama.

4.00 Inspector George Gently The detective looks into the suspicious death of a former informant. (Series 4, ep 2)

6.00 The Brokenwood Mysteries A former finance boss is found floating with a samurai sword in his back. (S4, ep 4)

8.00 Shakespeare & Hathaway - Private Investigators A psychic television show is the scene for murder. (S2, ep 4)

9.00 The Missing Tony takes matters into his own hands, leading to a violent confrontation. (Series 1, ep 5) 10.20 The Missing Tony covers his tracks.

11.40 Silent Witness A woman is killed in a car crash; and Kevin absconds. (S21, ep 4)

1.40-4.00 Dalziel & Pascoe The trial of a child murderer collapses. (Series 11, ep 5)



Complicated: Stein (Radio podcast)

#### 12.35 Made In Britain 1.10 Racing, From Newmarket and Haydock Park 4.00 The Sweeney 5.05 Made In Britain 6.35 World Of Sport **6.45** Snooker. Live coverage of the world mixed doubles championship 10.30 FILM: Ronin. Stars Robert De Niro and Jean Reno 1.00 English Football League Highlights 2.05 The Protectors 2.35-3.00 Unwind

5.35pm The Big Bang Theory. Sitcom **7.05** FILM: Failure To Launch. Stars Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey. A woman is hired to persuade a slacker to leave home **9.00** Celebrity Gogglebox. Shows including The Savoy and This Is My House are appraised **10.00** Gogglebox **12.10** First Dates Hotel **2.20** Celebrity Gogglebox 3.15 Derry Girls 3.45-6.00 Hollyoaks

#### MORE4

5.50pm Four In A Bed 6.55 Matt Baker - Travels With Mum & Dad. The Bakers head to Hexham Racecourse 8.00 Huge Homes. With Hugh Dennis 9.00 24 Hours In A&E **11.00** 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown 1.00 24 Hours In A&E 3.00-3.25 Food Unwrapped

5.05pm Only Fools And Horses 9.05 The Vicar Of Dibley 10.05 All Round To Mrs Brown's. With Clare Balding **11.20** Sandylands **12.00** The Royle Family 1.15 Peep Show 2.30 French And Saunders 3.35-4.00 Peep Show

#### YESTERDAY

6.00am Forbidden History 8.00 Great British Landmark Fixers, Documentary

9.00 Bangers And Cash 1.00 Abandoned Engineering 4.00 Steam Train Britain 7.00 Great British Railway Journeys 10.00 One Foot In The Grave 12.00-1.00 Bangers And Cash

#### DAVE

**6.00pm** Would I Lie To You? **8.00** Not Going Out **9.20** Not Going Out Bloopers Special. Unscripted moments from the sitcom 10.00 Mel Giedroyc - Unforgivable, With Rhod Gilbert 11.00 FILM: Rambo. Stars Sylvester Stallone and Julie Benz. Action sequel 12.55 Dave Gorman — Terms And Conditions Apply **1.55-4.00** Room 101

#### FACTUAL

#### **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

6.00pm Lords Of War. Four editions 8.00 World War II — Secrets From Above. The most extraordinary events of the conflict from a unique perspective **9.00-5.00** Air Crash Investigation, Back-to-back editions

#### DISCOVERY

6.00pm Wheeler Dealers 7.00 Gold Rush — Dave Turin's Lost Mine 8.00 Extraordinary Stories Behind Everyday Things. New series. Examining how wool blankets are made 8.30 Extraordinary Stories Behind Everyday Things. The story of how vinyl records are made using 1960s presses in Nashville **9.00** Gold Rush **10.00** Expedition Unknown. Enduring questions around Moses' existence 11.00-4.00 Nasa's Unexplained Files

#### **SKY ARTS**

5.15pm I Am Johnny Cash 7.00 The Eagles - Live From The LA Forum. A performance by the rock band 10.00 David Gray — White Ladder: From Then Til Now. The singer-songwriter talks about his best-selling album 11.30-1.25 Chuck Berry — The King Of Rock'n'Roll

#### PBS AMERICA

5.55pm The Silk Road. Sam Willis traces the history of the trade route 7.15 The Silk Road, Sam Willis travels through Central Asia **8.35** The Silk Road. A visit to Persepolis in Iran, the former capital of the Persian Empire 9.50 Who Was The Real Neanderthal? 10.55-12.00 Ice Age Footprints



Elba and Winslet (C4, 11,45pm)

#### SPORT

### SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

6.00am LIVE NPC Rugby: Wellington v Waikato. Kickoff at 5.35 **7.30** Good Morning Sports Fans 8.00 LIVE Rugby Championship: New Zealand v Australia. Kickoff at 8.05 9.55 Super League Gold 10.00 News 10.30 LIVE Women's One-Day Cricket: England v India 5.00 LIVE Super League. The final at Old Trafford. Kickoff at 6.00 **9.00 LIVE** PGA Tour Golf. The Presidents Cup **11.00-6.00** News

#### **EUROSPORT 1**

**8.45am** Cycling **9.00** Climbing World Cup **10.00** LIVE Electric Touring Car Racing World Cup 11.00 Cycling 1.00 LIVE Tennis. Day two of the Laver Cup **3.00 LIVE** Tennis. Further coverage of the Laver Cup **5.05** Cycling **6.00** Climbing World Cup 7.00 LIVE Tennis. The Laver Cup in London 9.00 LIVE Tennis. Concluding coverage of day two of the Laver Cup 11.00 Cycling 1.05-8.10 LIVE Cycling. The Road World championships

9.00am WWE 10.30 PTO Triathlon 11.30 Sport In Focus 11.45 Premiership Rugby Union **1.15** Films **2.30** LIVE Premiership Rugby Union: Northampton Saints v Leicester Tigers. Kickoff 3.00 5.15 Fight Night **6.00** Fight Night **7.00** DIY Pundit 7.30 LIVE Canadian Premier League 9.30 WWE 11.00 Joe Cole Cast 11.30 LIVE Hero CPL 3.45 Cricket Reload 4.00-6.00 Classic MOTD — Thrillers

### **RADIO**

### **PICK OF THE DAY**

### **Upfront**

#### Podcast

The women's football news podcast returns for a new series, hosted by the former Tottenham and Crystal Palace goalkeeper Chloe Morgan and co-founder of the GirlsontheBall platform Rachel O'Sullivan. In **Bad Gays** (podcast), hosts Ben Miller and Huw Lemmey discuss "evil and complicated queers in history" including Morrissey, Radclyffe Hall, Truman Capote and Gertrude Stein. Clair Woodward

#### **RADIO 4**

5.30 News 5.43 Prayer 5.45 Four Thought (R) **6.00** News And Papers 6.07 Ramblings (R) 6.30 Farming Today This Week **7.00** Today **9.00** Saturday Live 10.30 You're Dead To Me. The implementation and aftereffects of Prohibition in 1920s America 11.00 The Week In Westminster 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent 12.00 News 12.01 (LW) Shipping 12.04 Money Box **12.30** The News Quiz (R) **1.00** News **1.10** Any Questions? (R) **2.00** Any Answers? **2.45** 39 Ways To Save The Planet (R) **3.00** Censoring An Iranian Love Story (R) **4.00** Weekend Woman's Hour **5.00** Saturday PM **5.30** Political Thinking 5.54 Shipping 6.00 News 6.15 Loose Ends With quests Denzel Westley-Sanderson and John Woolf **7.00** Profile **7.15** This Cultural Life **8.00** Paul Verhoeven's American Future. Ken Hollings talks to the director about his vision of the future **9.00** The Corrupted, by GF Newman (R) 9.45 Joe Smith And His Waxworks (R) **10.00** News **10.15** Bringing Up Britain (R) **11.00** Brain Of Britain (R) 11.30 Imagiste (R) 12.00 Midnight News 12.15 Living With The Gods (R) **12.30** Short Works (R) **12.48** Shipping 1.00 As World Service

7.00 Breakfast 9.00 Record Review 11.45 Music Matters 12.30 This Classical Life (R) **1.00** Inside Music (R) **3.00** Sound Of Cinema **4.00** Music Planet 5.00 J To Z. Kevin Le Gendre pays tribute to the trumpeter Jaimie Branch **6.30** New Generation Artists. Alexander Gadjiev plays Brahms' autumnal Six Piano Pieces **7.00** In Concert. Live at the Royal Festival Hall, the London Philharmonic Orchestra opens its new season with a rare performance of Schoenberg's Gurrelieder **10.00** New Music Show. Highlights from this year's Witten Festival of New Music, including new works by Milica Djordjevic and Luca Francesconi **12.00**Freeness **1.00** Through The Night

#### TIMES RADIO

**6.00** Chloe Tilley And Calum Macdonald **10.00** Hugo Rifkind **1.00** Alexis Conran 4.00 Ayesha Hazarika **7.00** The TLS Podcast. A roundup of all the week's news in the world of books 8.00 Stories Of Our Times. The Times's daily podcast 8.30 Matt Chorley **9.00** Highlights From Times Radio 10.00 Kait Borsay. An early look at Sunday's newspapers **1.00** Highlights From Times Radio

